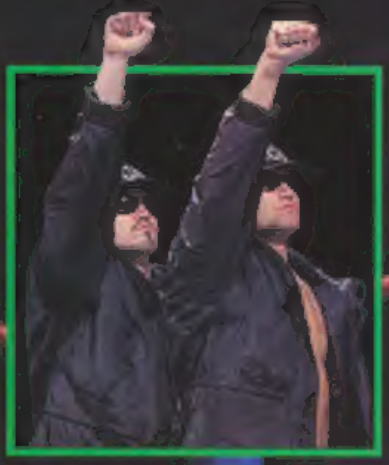
EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW: ROCKY! ROCKY! ROCKY! ROCKY!

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION
MAGAZINE





CAN ONE MAN OVERCOME A "NATION"?

Ahmed Johnson faces the challenge of his life.

MARCH 1997
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YEAH, THEY'RE COMING AND I CAN'T WAIT.



WHO? WHAT? WHERE? WHEN? WHY?

Find out more in future issues of the World Wrestling Federation Magazine!!!

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®
MAGAZINE

VOL. 16 NO. 3

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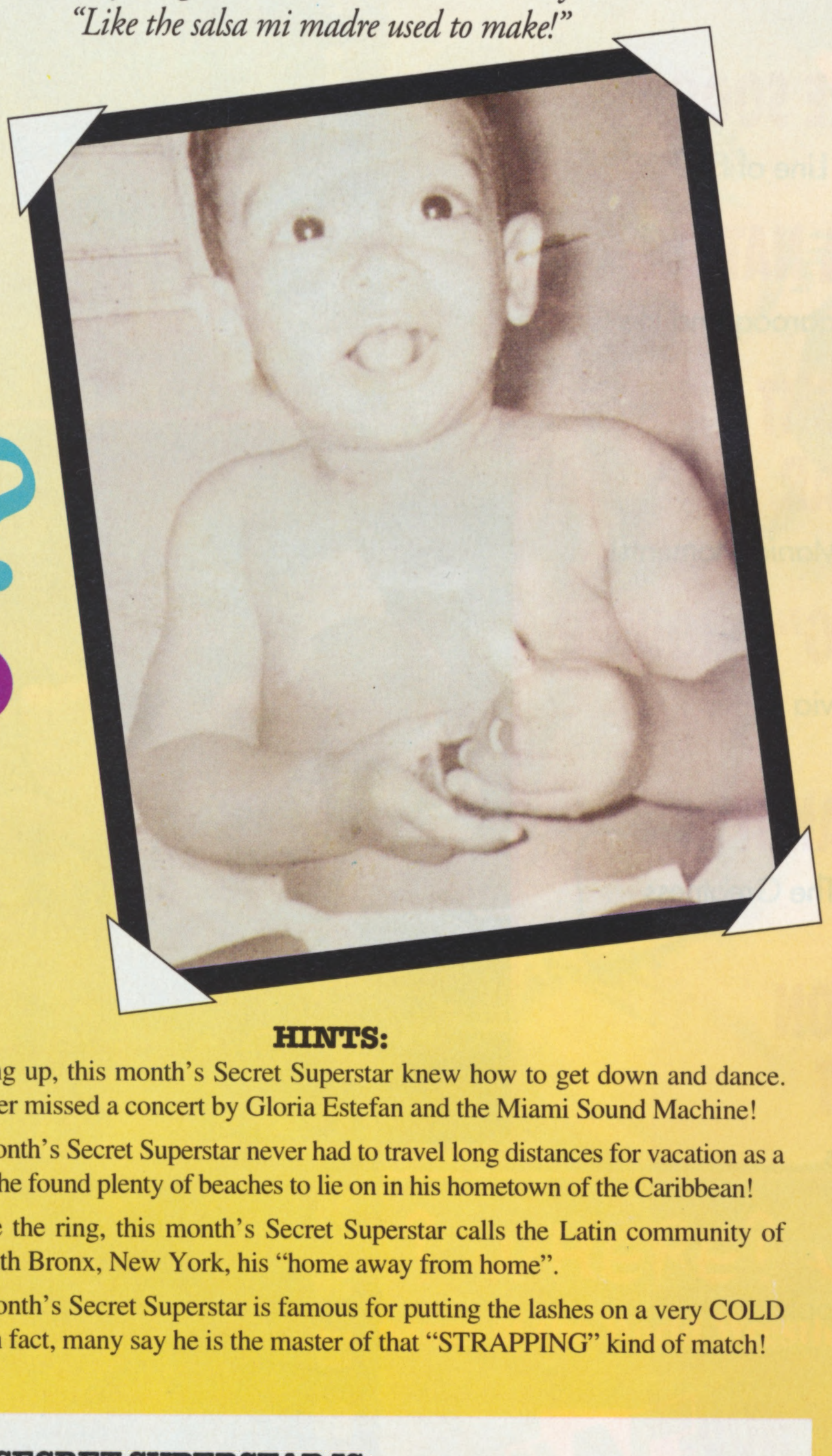
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CAN YOU GUESS THE SECRET SUPERSTAR

This Month's Secret Superstar's favorite food is anything HOT and SPICY or as he says, "Like the salsa mi madre used to make!"



HINTS:

1. Growing up, this month's Secret Superstar knew how to get down and dance. He never missed a concert by Gloria Estefan and the Miami Sound Machine!
2. This month's Secret Superstar never had to travel long distances for vacation as a child... he found plenty of beaches to lie on in his hometown of the Caribbean!
3. Outside the ring, this month's Secret Superstar calls the Latin community of the South Bronx, New York, his "home away from home".
4. This month's Secret Superstar is famous for putting the lashes on a very COLD man! In fact, many say he is the master of that "STRAPPING" kind of match!

THE SECRET SUPERSTAR IS: _____

ANSWER ON PAGE 64

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Vince Russo

Technical Advisor
Howard Finkel

Creative Director
Daniel Cultice

Production Manager
Brad Sagendorf

Copy Editor
Janet Simms

Field Editor
Keith Elliot Greenberg

Staff Photographer
Tom Buchanan

Senior Photography Editor
Noah Wilker

Vice President, Sales
James A. Rothschild

Advertising Director
Craig Cassanelli

Account Development Coordinator
Lisa Fox

1241 East Main Street
Stamford, CT 06902
(203) 352-8600

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To reach the editor, use any of the methods listed below:



FAX your comments, questions and suggestions to: 203-359-5118



E-MAIL us at the following Internet address: WWFEDITOR@AOL.COM



WRITE us at: World Wrestling Federation Magazine, c/o Vince Russo, Editor, P.O. Box 3859, Stamford, CT 06905

Letter:



Dear Editor,
After seeing Bret Hart's return at the 1996 *Survivor Series*, I just wanted to say that I think he is one of the greatest all-around guys in sports-entertainment today! I was thrilled to see that he didn't choose the money of Hollywood in lieu of his fans! Now that the "Excellence of Execution" is back where he belongs, it won't be long before he will win ALL the Federation gold once more! I only hope he comes to his senses and gets SUNNY as his manager!

Larry Wagner
Flagstaff, AZ

Larry, I agree with everything you said—ALMOST! Sunny? WOW! There have been some rumors circulating the locker room concerning the "Hit Man" and the "Golden Haired Fox"; however, as of press time they were just that—RUMORS. My question to you is: With seven Federation Titles already under his belt, why in the world would Bret need Sunny in his corner?

E-mail:



Dear Editor,
I have a question I know many of the readers of your magazine must also have. I just got the December issue of the *World Wrestling Federation Magazine*, and I was wondering why the Pay-Per-View results are always two months old?? I was expecting to see results from the *Survivor Series* and got *Buried Alive* results. Why is it done this way?

Jadman@aol.com

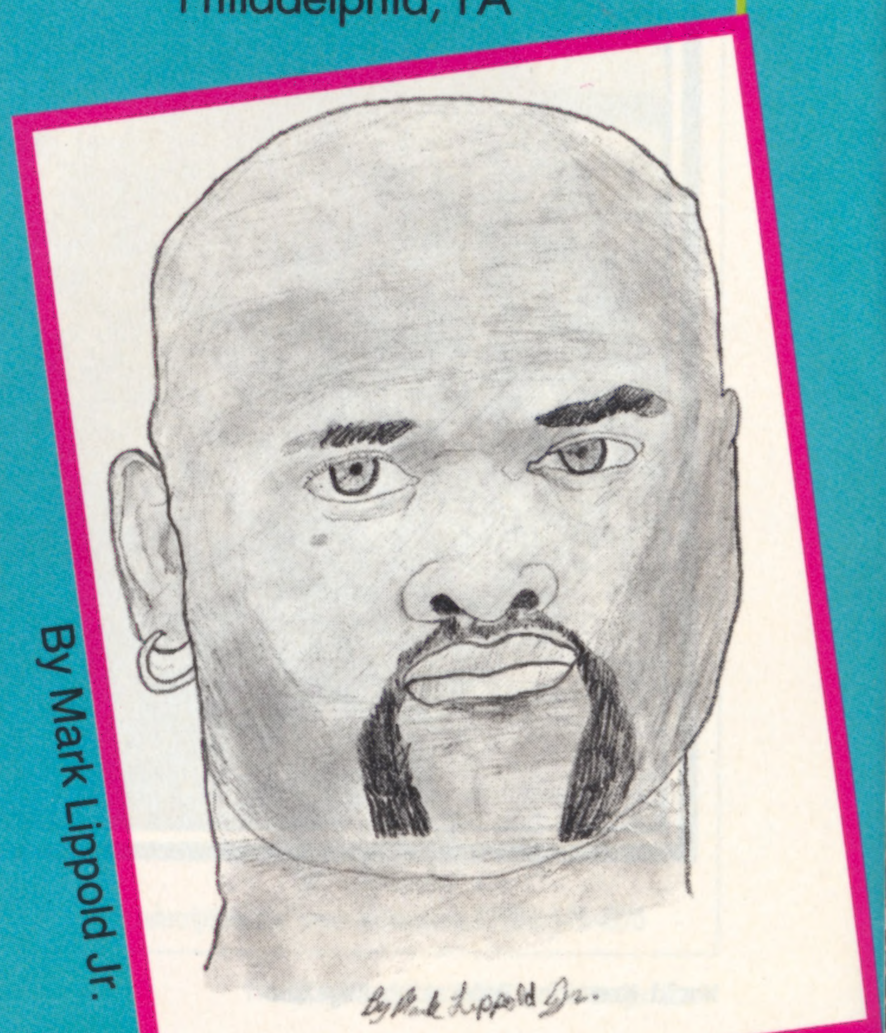
Excellent question, Jadman. In the "Publishing World", it takes somewhere between two to three months to put out a monthly magazine. Therefore, even though we actually write the article immediately following a Pay-Per-View event, you aren't able to read it in the magazine for at least a couple of months. In other words—BLAME IT ON THE PRINTERS!!!

Fax:



Dear Editor,
I feel it is now time to add a Lightweight Title to the World Wrestling Federation. With superstars like Leif Cassidy, Alex Porteau, Aldo Montoya, Billy Gunn, Bob Holly and newcomer Flash Funk, the Federation has plenty of wrestlers for this division to survive! Think about it, with some of the AAA Mexican superstars now competing in the World Wrestling Federation, you could see some GREAT action come out of this. I'm sure the fans would love it!

Mike Budd
Philadelphia, PA



By Mark Lippold Jr.

ments and gossip

INTERACTIN' WITH THE WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

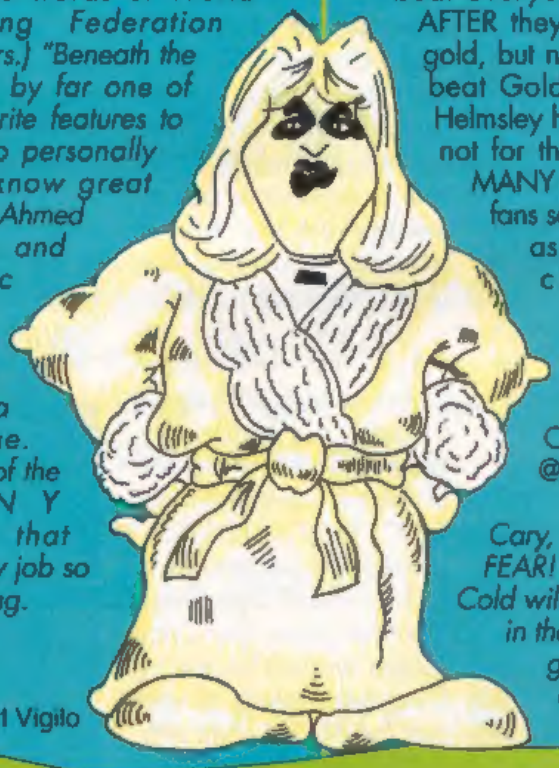
Great point, BUDD! In my opinion, it would be tremendous to see a new title added to the World Wrestling Federation! It would surely give those "Daveys" a fighting chance at Federation gold, rather than have to compete against "Goliaths" twice their size in physical nature!

Letter:

Dear Editor,
After reading the "Beneath the Skin" interview with Marc Mero in the January issue, I have a new respect for the Wildman. It's not often we get to see the superstars of the World Wrestling Federation for what they are outside of the ring, and the *World Wrestling Federation Magazine* lets me do that. By letting us in on the "private" lives of Ahmed Johnson and Marc Mero in the last few issues, it gives the fans something we can't normally get!

Jason Staulber
Fort Wayne, IN

Thanks for your comments, Jason. In the World Wrestling Federation Magazine, it is one of my goals to give the fans information on the superstars that they normally don't—and can't—get anywhere else. (Much of the stuff you may read in other wrestling publications is normally fabricated, and NOT the words of World Wrestling Federation superstars.) "Beneath the Skin" is by far one of my favorite features to write. To personally get to know great men like Ahmed Johnson and Marc Mero is both an honor and a privilege. It's one of the MANY things that make my job so rewarding.



By Carl Vigilo

E-mail:

Dear Editor,
First of all, Stone Cold RULES! Second, why in the world hasn't Gorilla Monsoon signed for Austin to face the Intercontinental Champion? I mean, the guy has beat everyone BEFORE or AFTER they have held the gold, but not DURING! He beat Goldust, Mero and Helmsley hands down, but not for the gold! I know MANY of the Federation fans see AUSTIN 3:16 as the REAL Intercontinental Champion! IMPEACH GORILLA!

Cary Farmer
CFarm1254
@aol.com

Cary, HAVE NO FEAR! In time... Stone Cold will have his day in the sun! But, hey, give the GORILLA a break!

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- ROSS REPORT: OPTION 6
- FRENCH CANADIAN REPORT: OPTION 7
- PAY-PER-VIEW POST-MATCH COMMENTS: OPTION 8

Rookies to LEGENDS

HEROES OF YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW

Halloween was drawing close for Paul Bearer and Mankind, and in honor of their favorite "hollerday" they chose the 1996 October *In Your House* to add yet another piece to their dysfunctional family by recruiting a giant known only as the "Executioner" to watch their backs. During the first ever "Buried Alive" match between the Undertaker and Mankind, this new minion of Paul Bearer made his first appearance—with brutal authority! Just as the Grim Reaper started to bury Mankind under a ton of dirt in Market Square Arena, this hooded monster smashed a steel shovel over the Undertaker's head, sending his limp body tumbling to the cold earth.

As the Executioner and his rotund manager dug Mankind out of his brief dirtnap, they hoisted the Man from the Dark Side and threw his giant carcass six feet under. Then, along with the other "vultures" of the World Wrestling Federation, the Executioner, Mankind and "Uncle Paul" gave the Purple Demon a fond farewell by leaving him for maggot meal. However, a mysterious bolt of energy hit the burial ground, sparking the Undertaker back to "life".

The next night on *RAW*, this new-found friend of Mankind stood by with his battle ax, seemingly the protector of Bearer's ever-growing "cult". They'd finally destroyed the Undertaker... or had they? Speaking from the grave, the Grim Reaper warned the trio of their impending doom and lowered a cage into the ringside area. The Executioner ripped the cloak off the steel pen to reveal a stuffed dummy hanging by its feet. This was the Undertaker's way of letting them know he would be back SOON... and he was coming for Paul.

That return took place just a month later at the 1996 *Survivor Series* in Madison Square Garden in New York City. In a return match between the Undertaker and Mankind, Paul Bearer was placed high above the ring in the very same cage that appeared at *RAW*. That night, in front of 19,000 screaming fans, the "new and improved" phenom exacted his revenge on the Deranged One by planting him with the Tombstone Piledriver. Just as the Undertaker was about to open the cage door to get his claws on Bearer, the Executioner blindsided his nemesis once more, denying him the chance to get at his former manager.

The Man from the Dark Side finally had enough of the Executioner's interference and challenged him to the first ever "Armageddon Rules" match at the December 1996 *In Your House*, entitled "It's Time". In this type of match neither man could win by pinfall or disqualification. The only way to claim victory was to beat your opponent so badly that he could not continue or answer the ten-count. The Executioner agreed to the match knowing very well it could have been his last, but he had to do it in order to get his chance to try to destroy the Undertaker with his Asian Spike—a paralyzing move that rivals the "Mandible Claw".

Despite the war that took place in West Palm Beach that night, the Executioner's World Wrestling Federation career is just dawning... and with Mankind and Paul Bearer by his side, it will only get more macabre as time goes on. WF



THE EXECUTIONER

THE FIGURE FOUR

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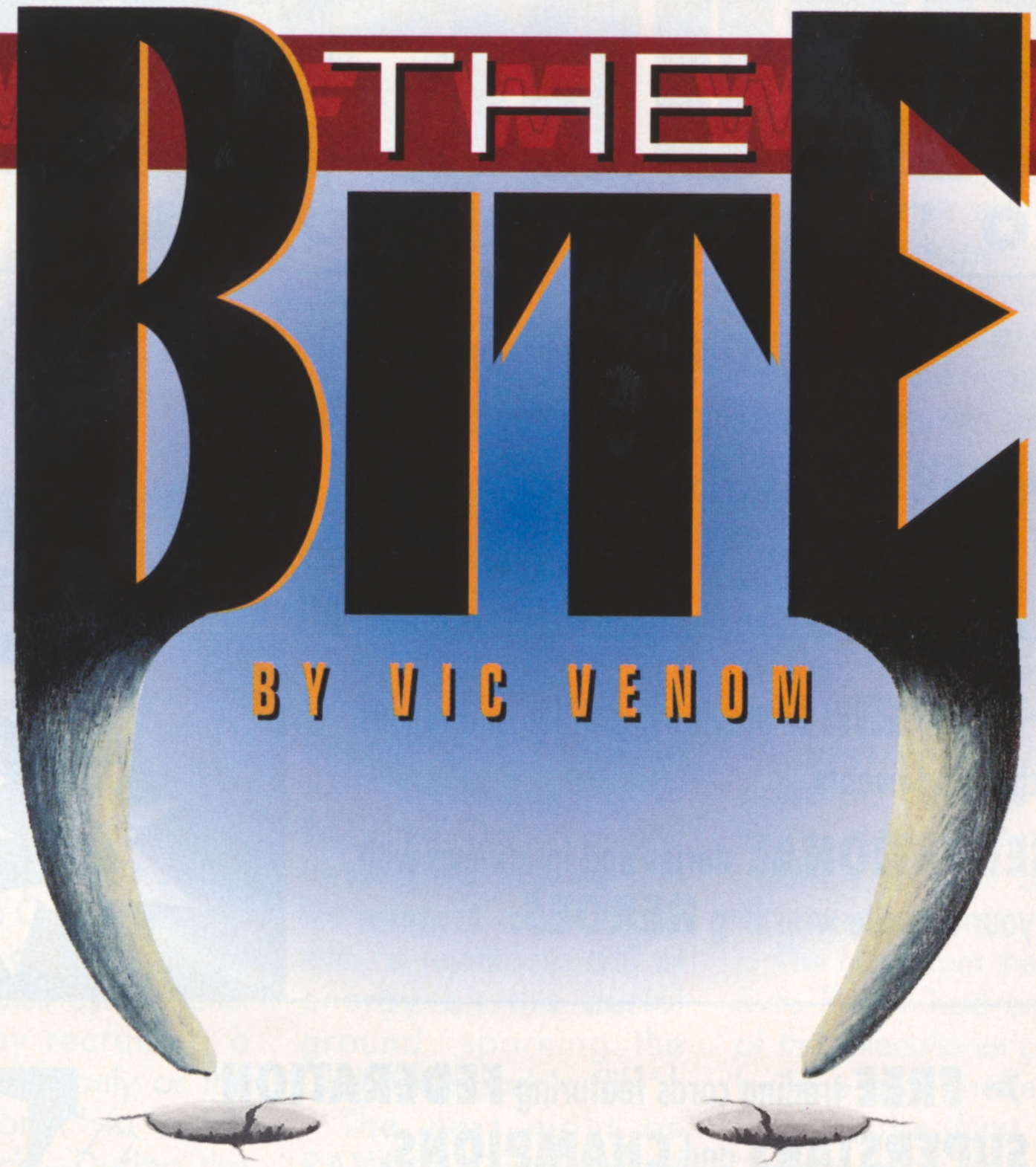
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A709XX

THE BITE

BY VIC VENOM



MATCHMAKER, MATCHMAKER MAKE ME A MATCH. FIND ME A FIND CATCH ME A CATCH.

Or whatever it was that wacky fiddler said as he sat on that roof. And why was he sittin' on top of that roof? YOU TELL ME AND WE'LL BOTH KNOW!!!

Anyway, my point is, I may not be a matchmaker and I certainly don't get my jollies out of sitting on top of any roof, BUT I'm gonna recommend an engagement that may be the closest thing to Camelot we'll ever see here in the World Wrestling Federation!!!

AND HAVE AN OPEN MIND ABOUT IT, WILL YA!!!

My proposed proposal starts with Rocky Maivia. Now, I'm gonna go out on a limb here and I'm gonna tell you that this kid is the brightest prospect to enter the Federation in the last ten years! A blue-chipper in every sense of the word!!! Believe me, his accomplishment at the *Survivor Series* was no fluke! I mean, this third-generation sports-entertainer appears to be the Tim Taylor of the squared circle! In other words—HE'S GOT ALL THE TOOLS!!! The natural ability, the speed, the power, the brains, the heart, the guts and the determination!!! And all at the tender age of 23!!!

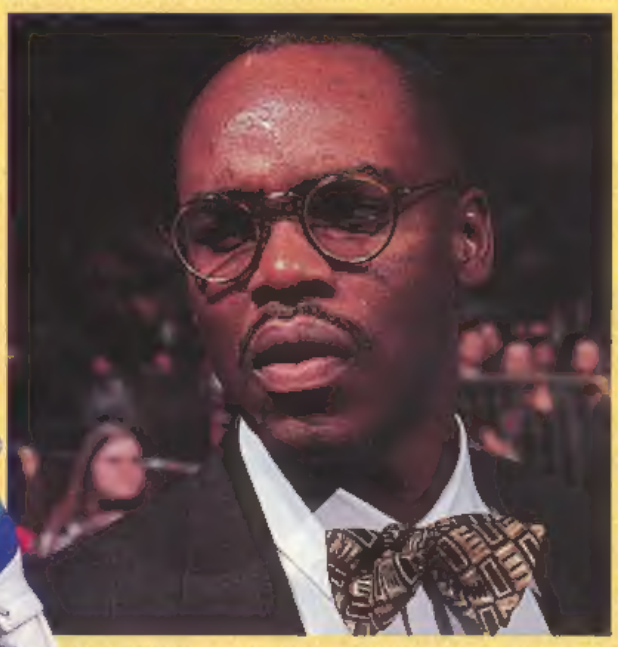
Every time I watch Rocky compete in a match, I become more and more impressed with him. With every challenge he appears to be getting better and better. He takes great pride in learning from his mistakes, surely a trait he inherited from his father (Rocky Johnson) and his grandfather before him (High Chief Peter Maivia). HOWEVER—and this is a big HOWEVER—there is one thing about Rocky that bothers me... and bothers me immensely! One word: P-R-E-S-S-U-R-E! Can a young kid of his age handle the pressure before him? The shoes that Rocky has to fill are TREMENDOUS! His father and grandfather were both legends in the World Wrestling Federation, and EVERYBODY AND THEIR MOTHERS are expecting nothing less from Rocky! Is he mature enough to handle that responsibility at such a young age? OR could he possibly be the second coming of David Sammartino—another youngster who could never quite get out from under the monstrous shadow of his father?



Okay, here's where we spit-polish the wedding ring. IN MY OPINION, Rocky Maivia desperately needs guidance to ensure that he will be in one piece by the time he reaches full maturity. Somebody who will be there by the youngster's side seeing that he deals with the pressures that come with his name in a positive fashion. Now, many have been scouting Rocky—most notably Sunny and Jim Cornette. Sorry, kids, but the beauty and the beast are both wrong for Maivia. Cornette? Well, Cornette is just a goofball. As for Sunny? Believe me, Rocky's young hormones don't want any part of that. Whose finger should Rocky place the brass ring on? The answer is simply... CLARENCE MASON'S!!!

Right now, Clarence Mason possesses the best mind in the World Wrestling Federation—BAR NONE (pardon the pun). He single-handedly took the "Marvin the Martian"-looking, unfocused Faarooq and sold him on the ideology of the Nation of Domination—Mason's brainstorm—thus transforming the proud Afro-American into one of the most dominating forces in the Federation as we speak. Say what you will about him, the man is brilliant! His intellect may be one of the most dangerous weapons in the game today!!! Give him a loophole... and he'll take you to the cleaners first, then strip you of everything else later! Thus far, this cunning, conniving prosecuting attorney has made NO MISTAKES! AND I don't see him making any... any time soon!!!

Maivia and Mason? No, pappy and grandpappy wouldn't be proud, but in the end their namesake might be claiming to be something that neither one of them ever was—World Wrestling Federation Champion!!! WF



TALES FROM THE TURNBUCKLE

All You Need To Know

Quote of the month

"Shawn Michaels... you little prissy! You have set out from day one to cost me the World Wrestling Federation Championship. It's because you've got sour grapes, and you just CAN'T accept the fact that you're not as good as I am!"

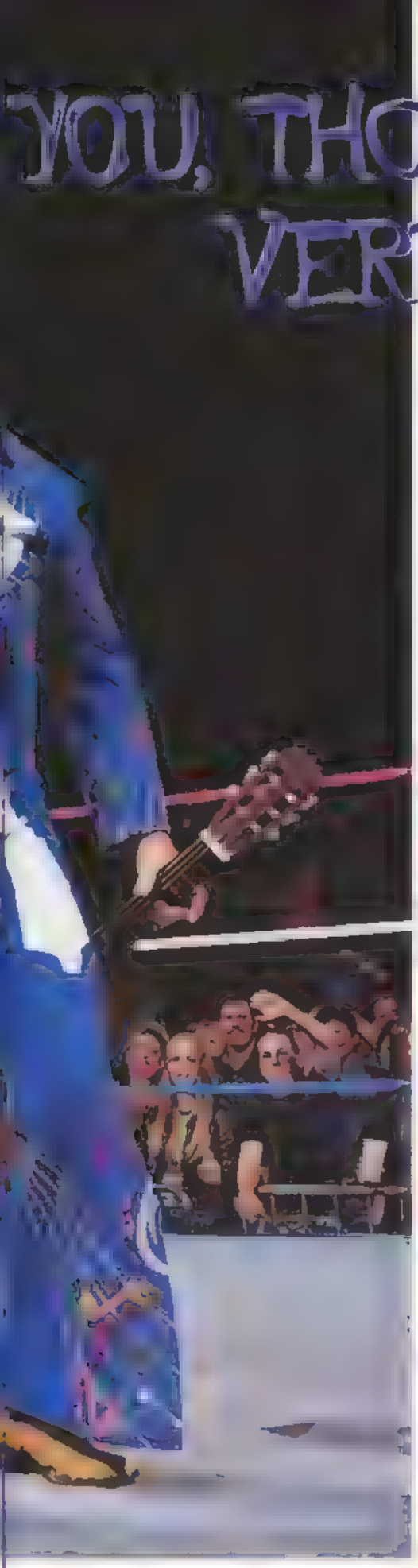
—Bret "Hit Man" Hart, on a recent *Monday Night RAW*

DON'T SAY YOU DON'T KNOW

Prior to stepping boot into the ring, Doug Furnas once set two world records in Powerlifting in 1987! In fact, in his first match as a professional wrestler, Doug ripped the door off a steel cage!



YOU, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!



Just when you thought it was safe to forget about the master of the "Shake, Rattle and Roll", the Honky Tonk Man has found his way back to the lights and action of the World Wrestling Federation. That's right, folks, open the gates of Titanland, because the pink cadillac is rollin' up the driveway and the king of rock 'n' roll sure ain't behind that wheel!

The return of the longest reigning Intercontinental Champion to date has raised some serious questions among the ranks of the Federation superstars. Was Honky back to win the gold? Is he going to do another infamous music video? And can his main "squeeze", Peggy Sue, be far behind? In fact, the self-proclaimed "Greatest Intercontinental Champion of All Time" has returned for only one reason and that is to MANAGE a "deserving" superstar to glory!

On his return last December, Honky quickly stated that he was looking for a man who could follow in his footsteps, however big those blue suede shoes might be. As ludicrous as it may sound, whispers have been circulating in the locker rooms that several Federation superstars may in fact be considering having this Memphis native guide their careers! Could it be that someone is willing to walk in the same jump suit as Honky did in the late 80s (and still wears today!)? You may be more than surprised when you find out just who is considering the offer!

WWF TOUR GUIDE

March

10 Worcester, MA *(RAW)*

14 Louisville, KY

15 Landover, MD

16 MSG, NYC

23 Chicago, IL *(WrestleMania XIII)*

24 Rockford, IL *(RAW)*

25 Peoria, IL

April

1-14 (International tour of the Middle East and South Africa)

20 Rochester, NY *(In Your House)*

21 Erie, PA *(RAW)*

22 Youngstown, OH *(Superstars)*

MORE FREEBIES

Any cable or satellite customers who send in a copy of their cable bill showing purchase of March's *WrestleMania XIII* will be automatically entered into a contest to win an all-expenses-paid trip (for you and a guest) to *King of the Ring*! Stay tuned for more details on the raffle. Entries must be received by May 31, 1997. No purchase necessary

All bills should be sent to:

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BACK IN BLACK?

Remember the legendary team of Blackjack Mulligan and Blackjack Lanza? The two rough and rugged Texans who stormed the World Wrestling Federation in the late 70s with their brand of "ropin" and "slobberknockin!" Both these burly cowboys shared more than a common nickname. In fact, they were both masters of the dreaded Claw hold, a move that crushed their opponents' temples within seconds of applying it. They were a team that will truly go down in the books of the World Wrestling Federation as one of the greats. BUT don't ever say that history can't repeat itself in the World Wrestling Federation!

Recently, native Lone Stars Justin "Hawk" Bradshaw and Barry Windham joined together in becoming the second coming of the Blackjacks. It's a well-known fact that Windham is a born and reared Texan. He is an athlete with wild prairie running through his veins, and with the bad man from Roscoe in his corner the deep-blue sky of the Lone Star state is the limit for these two! However, can Windham and Bradshaw perfect the Claw hold that made the Blackjacks former World Wide Wrestling Federation Tag Team Champions? Well, believe it or not, they MAY have a little unexpected help in that area!

As of press time, there is a STRONG rumor making its way around the Federation that the legendary Blackjack Lanza has gotten wind of this alliance and may in fact be coming out of retirement to guide Windham and Bradshaw under his wings. Since retiring, Lanza has been laying low on the ranch, but critics say that this rare opportunity could bring him out in front of the camera once again? *World Wrestling Federation Magazine* has been unable to get a comment from either Windham or Bradshaw on the matter, but we will try to update you on the situation!

TOP 5 REASONS WHY STONE COLD STEVE AUSTIN HATES "TICKLE ME ELMO"

1. No matter how many times he puts Elmo's head under his car tire and puts the pedal to the metal, the #$@! thing just keeps laughing and saying, "Ooooh, THAT TICKLES!"
2. He thought it would make a good chew toy for his Rottweilers, but the dogs just can't seem to rip off Elmo's arms when the #$@$ thing starts shaking all over the floor!
3. If that #$%@ thing wakes him up in the middle of the night one more time, he's gonna see how much it tickles when he drops it 12 floors from his balcony on its #@$% head!
4. For such a popular toy, Elmo didn't laugh too $%@#! much after he took a ride inside Austin's "Tickle Me Blender!"
5. If you had to push through a line filled with a hundred seven-year-old rug rats to buy a $40 piece of crap named Elmo that laughs at you all the time, you would want to open a can of whoop-@#$ on it, too!

GOLDUST WILL NEVER FORGET THE NAME...

Marlena!



Since the box-office debut of "Shattered Dreams Production Co." in December of 1995, Goldust has been the master of the mind game. By using the almighty paranoia tactic against some of the Federation's best, the Bizarre One rocketed to the top of the Federation, snaring the Intercontinental Title on the way. With his face paint and "colorful" personality, there seemed to be no stopping the Golden Boy.

However, while the actor was playing his mind games against the superstars, various parental and censorship groups were playing games with Goldust's reputation. No matter where the Golden One "flaunted" his personality, the morality mongers were spreading propaganda, claiming that Hollywood was responsible for everything from Pearl Harbor to Bob Dole's presidential flop. They truly made "conservative" Bob Backlund look like a Woodstock hippie overnight!

But maybe they should have opened their eyes and ears and listened to the Golden Boy, because it was JUST ANOTHER MIND GAME! All along, he had a "golden eye" for only one person... the beautiful Marlena!

This past December, Goldust surprised the world by revealing his true passion for Marlena. He truly made Jerry "The King" Lawler eat his words on a recent episode of *Monday Night RAW* by declaring he has ALWAYS been enamored of the Golden Director since Take One! No one ever stopped to think it may have been a mind game from the VERY START! Only ONE MAN claims to have known the inside scoop the entire time, and that is our own VIC VENOM! To check out Vic's views on this HOT story, be sure to grab the next issue of the *Raw Magazine* on newsstands now!



March 23	***WRESTLEMANIA XIII*** **Rosemont, IL**
April 20	***IN YOUR HOUSE*** **Rochester, NY**
May 11	***IN YOUR HOUSE*** **Baltimore, MD**

how to order pay-per-view

Call your local cable company. Your cable operator will have specific information on how to order and the cost of each event. You can also check your last month's cable bill for a special ordering phone number for your system's pay-per-view events.

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1) All events are on Sunday at 7pm ET. 2) Replays for all *In Your House* events at 9pm ET. 3) Replays for all five other events are at 10pm ET. 4) Encores for all five other events are the Tuesday following the event. The times of the encores are 8pm and 11pm ET.

IN THE LINE OF FIRE

TA

Move over Rick James! You may have been the original "Super Freak" of the 80s, but now something far more FUNKADELIC is set on dominating what's left of the 90s!!!

Over the years, many "flamboyant" superstars have called the World Wrestling Federation their "crib"; to date, however, NO ONE may have "Played That Funky Music" quite the way that Flash Funk does! With his vivacious "Funkettes" cutting up the mat by his side, Flash is set to paint the Federation with a sense of style and excitement that not even New York Knick great Walt "Clyde" Frazier would understand!



And that's only the pre-game show!

Once his boogie boots touch the dance floor (that's the squared circle to you and me), Funk's explosive, unpredictable, almost SUICIDAL ring style leaves his critics buzzing... and opponents cuzzing! With his exciting array of aerial maneuvers, there is no question that this Federation superstar has the right ingredients to mix the FLASH with the FUNK and strut his way through the World Wrestling Federation.



Recently we caught up with the Funkmaster, and this is what he had to say:

EDITOR: In your own words, what does the FLASH in Flash Funk represent?

FLASH: That's easy, the FLASH separates me from everybody else here in the World "Rasslin'" Federation. Now don't misunderstand the Funk, there are many great "flam-

ARGET:

FLASH FUNK



boyant" wrestlers here in the Federation, BUT there is only one with the FLASH and that's Flash Funk!

EDITOR: Is your ring entrance just as important to you as what you do once you get into the ring?

FLASH: To me? Yes it is! Everything I do—from the time my music starts until the final bell rings and I leave the arena—is extremely important to the Funk! It's all part of the "Flash Funk Experience", which is simply... FUNKADELIC AT ITS BEST!!!

EDITOR: This may be getting a bit off the subject, but who designs your clothes? Do you?

FLASH: Actually, I have a lot of input on the design of my threads, but I have a few ladies out of New York who take care of the Funk. Basically, their job is to make sure that each ensemble is fly... which in turn puts the FUNK in the FLASH!

EDITOR: Growing up, who were some of your sport-entertainment inspirations?

FLASH: Of course, there was "Superfly" Jimmy Snuka. Man, he was one FUNKY cat for his time! I also enjoyed watching Jumpin' Jim Brunzelle. Those high-flyers back then had it goin' on! I'll never forget when the "Fly" flew his booty from the top of that steel cage! Man, that was the grooviest!!!

EDITOR: How would you compare your wrestling style to those two superstars?

FLASH: I think the Funk's might be a little more versatile. I've takin' all the wrestling styles that the Funk knows, and I've turned them into somethin' FUNKTASTIC—if you know what I mean. I've combined the flashiest and the funkiest from the styles of Mexico, Japan, America and Europe and I've customized them to the style of the Funk. It's FUNKADELIC, daddy, it's all FUNKADELIC!!!



EDITOR: Would Flash Funk consider himself a one-woman man?

FLASH: (Laughing) You mean the ladies? That's a tough one, Cochise!!! The truth is... if the Funk can find the right lady out there... then he's definitely capable of being a one-woman man. BUT until I find that Pam Grier, I'll be down to having a Funky Flash good time!!!

EDITOR: On the Flash Funk scale, who rates higher—James Brown, Sly Stone or Rick James?

FLASH: Man, you're really gonna put the Funk on the spot, aren't you? All right, here goes! For starters, let me just say that all three fly off the FUNK-O-METER, if you know what I'm saying, but if

CAN ONE MAN OVERCO
NATION OF DOMIN



By Vince Russo

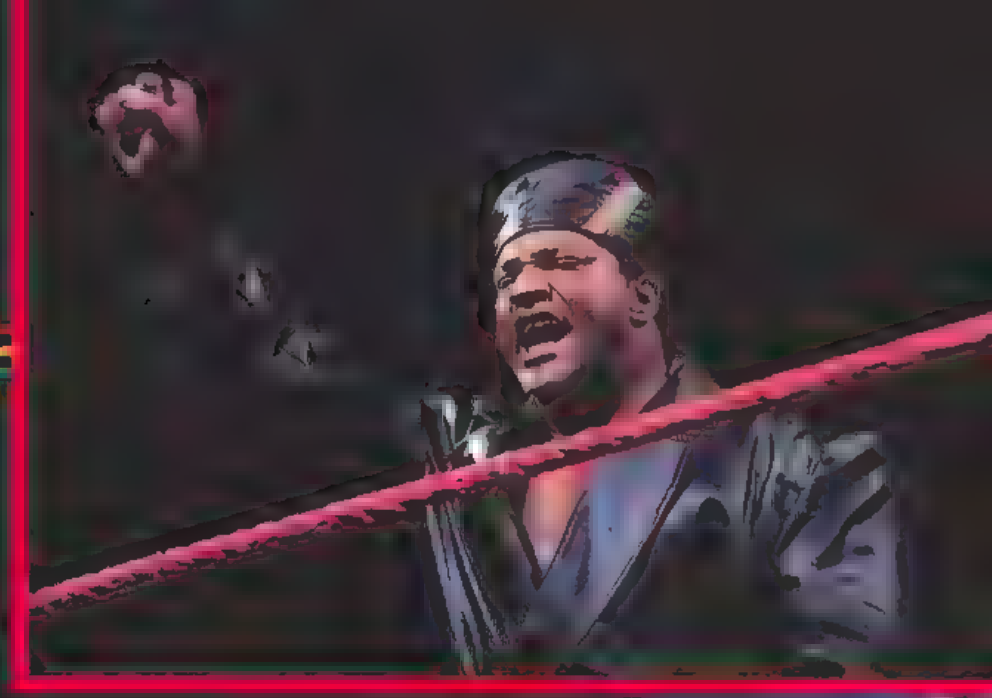
Does Ahmed Johnson really know what he's getting himself into?

Personally, I'm not too sure he does.

When Ron Simmons decided to make a comeback into the world of sports-entertainment after a four-year hiatus, he entered a playing field that had changed a great deal in his absence. A profession where once the strong man ruled had turned into a battlefield where an aggressive aerial attack took precedent over all. That is what may have cost the man who now wished to be called FAAROOQ his chance at capturing the Intercontinental Title. A more versatile Marc Mero was able to elude the power of Faarooq just long enough to gain his first taste of World Wrestling Federation gold.

But, there were more reasons

OME THE ATION?



than just ring style that Faarooq failed that night. In my opinion, as well as those of many other critics of the sport, Faarooq was unprepared for his first run in the Federation. The first sign of that came out of the chute, when he announced to the world that the vivacious Sunny would be managing his career. Anybody who knew Faarooq—in his earlier life—realized that he and his new, cunning, astute manager would have irreconcilable differences. The fact is, the only thing they had in common was that they both cared about one thing only... THEMSELVES! Sunny was in it strictly for the gold, while Faarooq was just hoping to get the "quick fix" by capitalizing on the Golden Haired Fox's tag team successes!

Ironically enough, the





"odd couple" crossed signals their first night in cahoots! To date, no one is quite sure whether Sunny gave Faarooq the order to jump the monstrous Ahmed Johnson from behind, or if Faarooq took it upon himself in an effort to make an immediate impact in the Federation! Either way... it was the wrong decision to make. Even though Faarooq succeeded in putting the "Pearl River Pit Bull" out of business for awhile, he knew that Ahmed was thinking about his cowardly actions—intensely—every day that he rested motionless in that hospital bed.

It was at that point when Faarooq could have lost total focus. Knowing it was only a matter of time before he faced the wrath of Ahmed, his mind couldn't have been on the Intercontinental bout with Mero that night. And if he wasn't going to beat himself in that critical match-up... then perhaps his selfish manager would! No, it was no surprise to me when Sunny and Faarooq once again crossed telephone lines at the end of the match. Whether Sunny made the decision to plant a brick in her purse or Faarooq gave the order himself, it didn't matter. Again the clashing combination of oil and vinegar cost Faarooq his shot at immediate stardom.

Immediately following the Mero debacle, Faarooq was smart enough to realize... what he had to do. Without pointing fingers, Sunny and Faarooq went their separate ways. As professionals they both realized that it just wasn't happening, so they split. It was at this point that Clarence Mason found his way inside the head of Faarooq. Clarence was at the right place, at the right time... with the right words. He openly gave his views and opinions on life to Faarooq, and told him about a piece of mind that he needed to make his new address.

It was called the "Nation of Domination," and in Mason's words, "We live in a world where we have been misused, mistreated and abused, but no longer will that happen. We can no longer rely on the establishment to hand out a fair brand of justice. Therefore, we have decided to take matters into our own hands. The answer—the Nation of Domination."

Under the new laws and bylaws of the Nation of Domination, Faaroog became a much different man... seeing things in a much different light. Pride, confidence and determination now dripped from his body, much as uncertainty had before. He now represented a man with a cause, and any human being will tell you that a man with a cause... is a dangerous man. Right now, Faaroog stands in principle as tall an

strong as the Rock of Gibraltar, claiming that there is no man alive capable of chipping his proud armor of granite. No man... including Ahmed Johnson.

Ahmed Johnson... take heed. Under the Nation of Domination, Faaroog is much more dangerous than ever before. Wearing the colors of N.O.D., he loudly barks that he will never let his brothers down, but perhaps more important he will never let himself

down. He has something to prove to the world, and he has his sights set on you being his example. And understand... he is not alone. Behind him is an army of soldiers who live and die by the book of the Nation of Domination. Men who believe that their way... their purpose... their cause... is the only way!

So I ask: Can one man overcome the Nation of Domination?

Only time will tell...



VIC VENOM'S *WRESTLEMANIA*



World Wrestling Federation propaganda would say, "Let's Elmer (that's GLUE for those not as clever as I am) a HUGE advertisement on this page—right here—and promote *WrestleMania XIII*! C'mon guys, we can bang the fans over the head with sayings like "GOOD SEATS STILL AVAILABLE", and everybody's favorite: "IF YOU CAN'T CATCH THE ACTION LIVE... SEE IT ON PAY-PER-VIEW!!!"

Now I ask you—is that any way to sell the "SUPER BOWL OF SPORTS-ENTERTAINMENT?!" I say—FA-GET A-BOUT-IT!!! There's only one way to sell *WRESTLEMANIA XIII* and that's to reflect back and take a long, hard look at some of the greatest moments, or should I say—MY GREATEST MOMENTS—in the history of *WRESTLEMANIA*!!!

WRESTLEMANIA

Ah yes, the beginning of it all! At the time I can remember that Pay-Per-View was nothing more than an embryo in the belly of cable TV. It was available in only very few parts of the country; therefore, on that March 31, 1985, the only place to catch the action live was at Madison Square Garden itself or in a movie theater on closed-circuit TV. Yeah, right, I'll sit in a movie theater on a Sunday afternoon with a bunch of screaming, snot-nosed kids harmoniously waving their foam Hulkamania fingers! So, the truth is—I didn't see it live. I did, however, call the World Wrestling Federation hotline immediately following the event to get the results. Months later when I finally had the opportunity to view the gala on Coliseum Video, the one highlight that stuck out—which to this day I haven't forgotten—was the way that King Kong Bundy annihilated Special Delivery Jones! A newcomer to the Federation at the time, the "walking condominium" put S.D. away in NINE SECONDS!!! In other words, if you had gone to the refrigerator to fetch a cream soda... YOU WOULD HAVE MISSED IT! That match made the career of King Kong Bundy! From that point on, he was one of the most feared men in squared circle history.



WRESTLEMANIA 2

Another landmark in World Wrestling Federation history! No, not because *WrestleMania 2* originated from three separate arenas in three separate time zones. And no, not even because Andre The Giant went through the best the National Football League had to offer—as if they were nothing more than the offensive line of the 1996 New York Jets—in a 20-man, over-the-top Battle Royal!!! But simply because yet another Federation newcomer took a bite—a VENOMOUS bite—out of the World Wrestling Federation. It was a spewing, poisonous chomp that would have an effect on the leader of sports-entertainment for many years to come! When a young and evil Jake "The Snake" Roberts DDT'd George Wells that night—in impressive, convincing, inspiring fashion, I might add—it was at that very moment I knew that the "Snake" would "rattle" the course of sports-entertainment as we knew it!"

WRESTLEMANIA III

WRESTLEMANIA III

Almost ten years later and still my personal favorite. There were just so many unforgettable moments at *WrestleMania III*. The 93,000 fans at the Pontiac Silverdome, the anticipation of the Hulk/Andre match, Rowdy Roddy Piper's long walk down that aisle, Savage/Steamboat—it still ranks as the single greatest event in World Wrestling Federation history to date—IN MY OPINION, of course. HOWEVER, maybe the most UNDERRATED moment of the night came when 400-plus-pound King Kong Bundy big-splashed the 50-minus-pound Little Beaver. To this day, my greatest *WrestleMania* moment OF ALL TIME!!!

WRESTLEMANIA IV

The first *WrestleMania* that I had the privilege of attending live. At the time, I was a HUGE Randy Savage fan (I even bought that purple T-shirt, for cryin' out loud) and going in I just had the feeling... that this was to be his night! In the prime of his career, the "Macho Man" dripped with charisma and athleticism like no one else before him ever had. When Hulk Hogan and Andre The Giant eliminated each other in their championship tournament match-up via DQ, you just knew that the "Madness" was finally going to get his due. After pinning Ted DiBiase to become the World Wrestling Federation Champion, Savage lifted the radiant Elizabeth up on his shoulder to the triumphant sounds of "Pomp and Circumstance" as 19,000 appreciative fans joined in the celebration. Truly a Kodak moment I will never forget!


WRESTLEMANIA IV

WRESTLEMANIA V



WRESTLEMANIA V

Man, was I PO'd when Randy Savage was robbed of the World Wrestling Federation Title?! I was back at the Trump that year, and I literally saw the "Macho Man" kick Hulk Hogan first from post-to-post, then from pillar-to-pillar! All of a sudden, big boot, off-the-ropes, legdrop, 1-2-3—GIVE ME A BREAK! I was, however, very impressed with Marty Jannetty and Shawn Michaels of the Rockers. For two young rookies they were extremely impressive in their first Pay-Per-View. They took the Twin Towers (Akeem and the Big Boss Man) to the limit, until they were out-powered in the end. Watching these two high-flyers live for the first time, I knew that they would one day both be kings of the sport.

All right, so one out of two isn't bad!

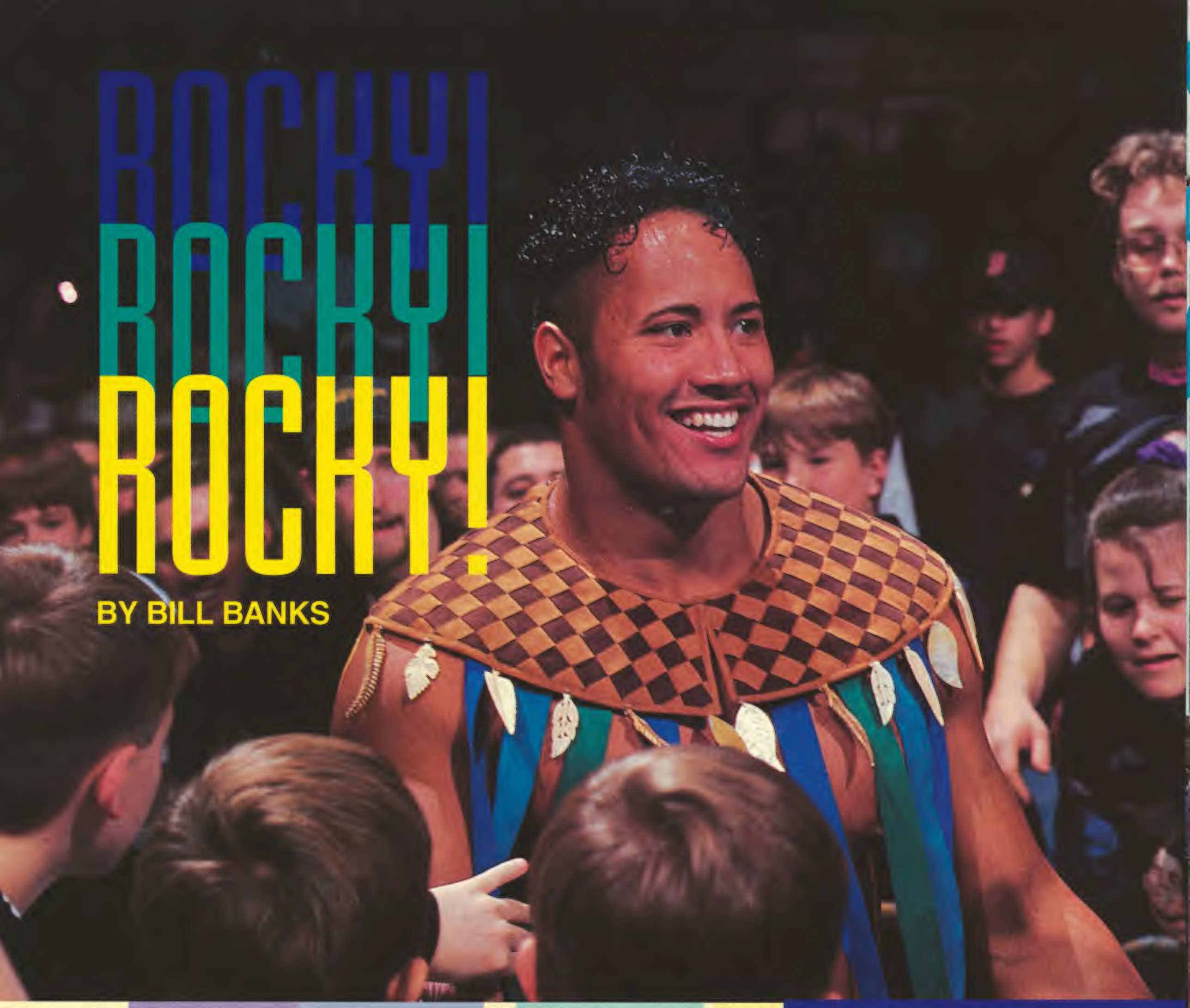


WRESTLEMANIA VI

Much like the Hulk Hogan/Andre the Giant *WrestleMania III* match, this was one of the few occasions when I had trouble predicting a winner in the main event. On paper, the Ultimate Warrior outclassed Hulk Hogan in every category; HOWEVER, there was always that predictable, sickening, stomach-wrenching, make me wanna puke—big boot, off the ropes, legdrop, 1-2-3!!! Needless to say, I was thrilled to see the Warrior become the World Wrestling Federation Champion. Unfortunately, the failure of this icon and corporate America to see eye-to-eye cheated the fans of the Federation out of what "could have been" the "Ultimate Era" in sports-entertainment!!!

ROCKY! ROCKY! ROCKY!

BY BILL BANKS

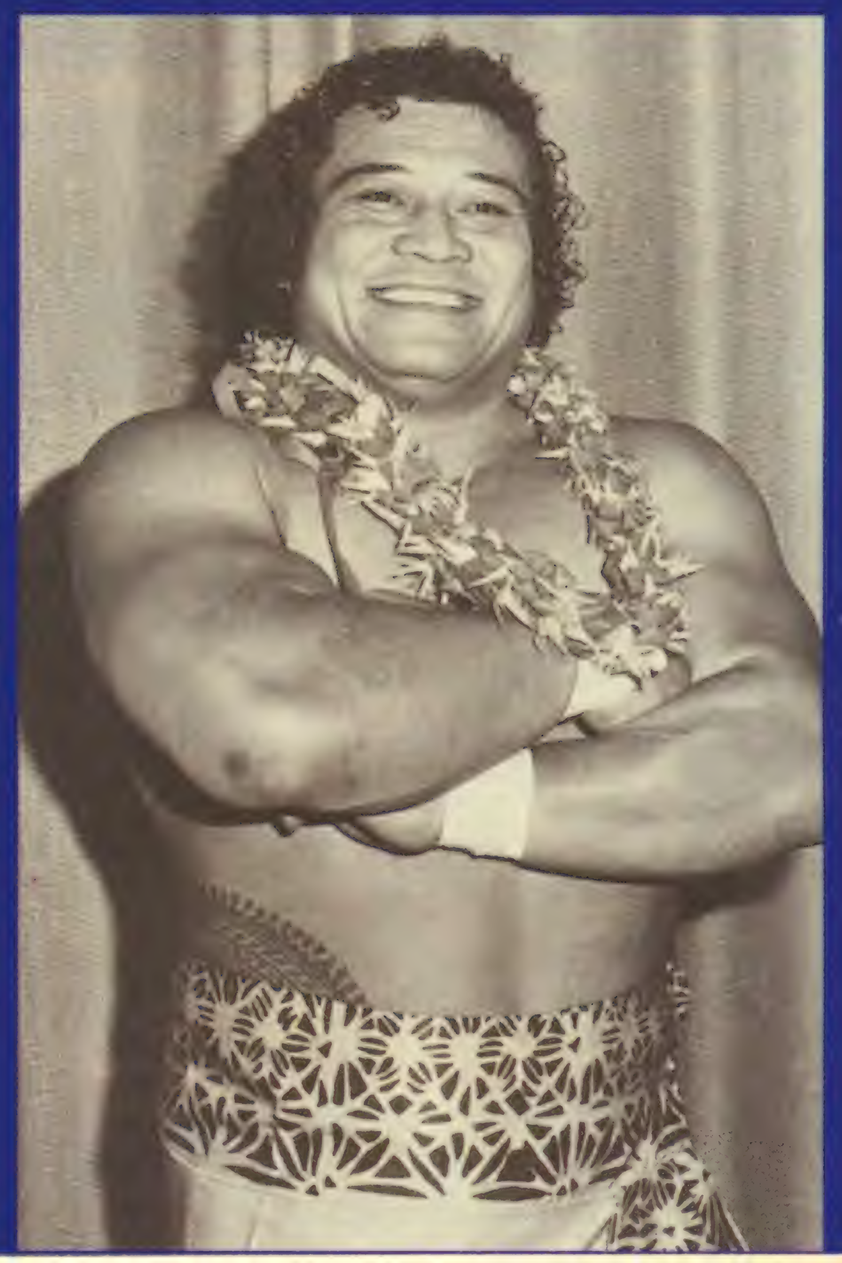


Twenty years ago, before thoughts of getting into the ring ever crossed his mind, little Duane Johnson would often sit on his mother's lap and watch his grandfather go to work in the World Wide Wrestling Federation. "High Chief" Peter Maivia was a legend at the time—a Polynesian sensation who would make opponents think twice about a Pearl Harbor job when his famous tribal javelin was in his hand.

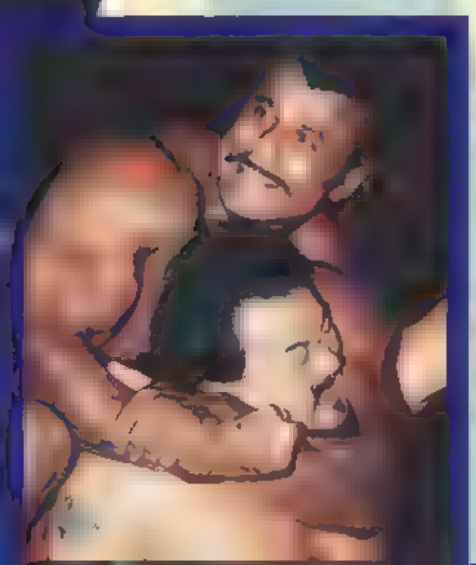
"Now that I look back on my grandfather's matches, I see the intensity and aggressiveness that he competed with," said Duane. "I know those are two of the traits I inherited from him."

About 10 years later, Duane was watching his own father pass through those same ring ropes. He celebrated when dad and Tony Atlas won the World Wrestling Federation Tag Team Title from the Samoans in August of 1983, and he was there to give his father a big hug when they lost the straps to Adrian Adonis and Dick Murdoch in April of the following year. During his career, the elder Johnson often heard the chants of "ROCKY! ROCKY! ROCKY!" throughout Madison Square Garden. It was the fans' way of bringing him to that extra level. And while most kids his age were collecting comic books and watching cartoons, Duane Johnson was at ringside chanting his father's name along with nearly 20,000 fans.

Then, in the late 80s, Rocky Johnson bowed out of the ring. For more than 20







years, fans had come to appreciate a member of the Maivia family duking it out on Federation television, but the chants suddenly died down. Unbeknownst to the fans, however, "little" Duane Johnson was competing at the University of Miami as a member of the Hurricanes football team. As soon as he graduated from the university, he was offered the status of "High Chief" in his homeland of Samoa. Something kept him in America, however, and that was the idea of professional wrestling. Out of respect for his father and grandfather, Duane Johnson adopted Rocky Maivia as his ring name—to carry on the family tradition.

"I always knew that I wanted to be a wrestler and compete in the World Wrestling Federation," Maivia said. "But I would never attempt to follow in my father or grandfather's footsteps. Those shoes are just too big to follow. Everything I work for is going to be earned."

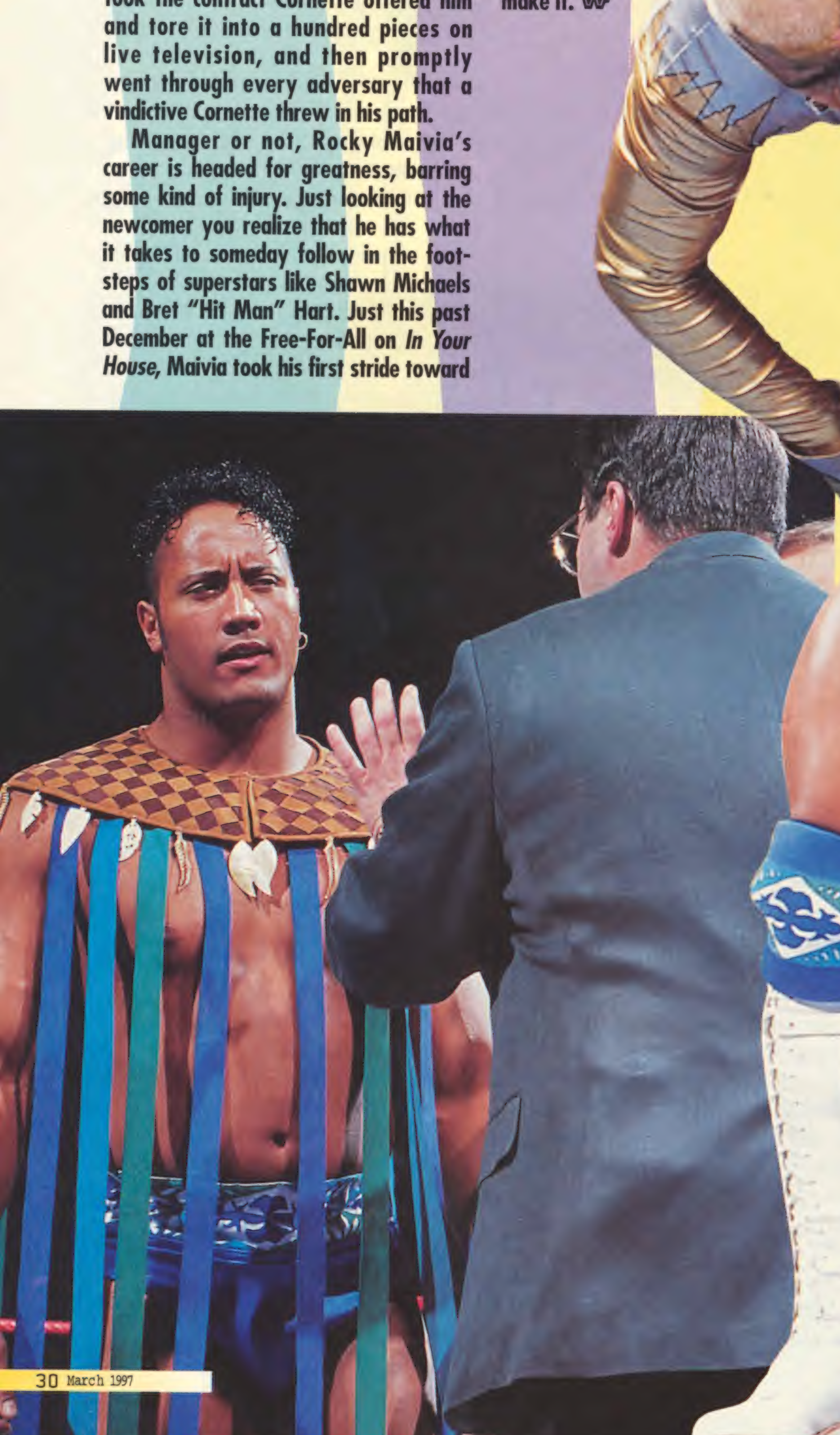
As soon as he entered the Federation, Rocky sought out the tutelage of Tom Pritchard, the former Heavenly Body. The two athletes worked long hours in the gym, concentrating on sharpening the blue chipper's skills. Much like Jose Lothario and Shawn Michaels, Pritchard saw great potential in this bright-eyed kid after only a few weeks. It didn't take long for the family pastime to flow through Maivia's veins, and he was soon hand-picked by Wildman Marc Mero to compete on his 1996 *Survivor Series* team. In his very first professional match in the World Wrestling Federation, Maivia was going home to Madison Square Garden.

At first, fans didn't know what to make of the kid. Here he was standing side-by-side with Mero, Barry Windham and Jake "The Snake" Roberts! Who was this tall Samoan and why did Mero choose him? It didn't take long for everyone to realize Maivia had all the tools necessary to become a Federation superstar, but never in their wildest dreams would they have thought he would be the sole survivor in New York City that night. Just as soon as the packed house started up the chant of "ROCKY! ROCKY! ROCKY!", something almost magical happened. Maivia shocked the sports-entertainment world by single-handedly beating Crush and Goldust at the *Survivor Series* en route to becoming the sole survivor. This was the first time in Federation history that a rookie had achieved such an accomplishment. Some say the spirit of his grandfather was in the arena... others say his father gave him the strength. Whatever it was, Rocky found some kind of awesome inner strength that allowed him to do what he did.

Soon thereafter, a managerial race began for his services. Before he had even laced up a boot for the squared circle, some of the Federation managers openly scoffed at the young talent. Now,

they are almost getting down on their hands and knees for him. First on the list was Sunny, who was openly enamored of Maivia after his victory at the *Survivor Series*. Maivia wisely stayed away from the Golden Haired Fox, fearing that beautiful body (but devious mind) would ultimately get him in trouble. Then Jim Cornette took center stage—and what a mistake THAT turned out to be! Maivia took the contract Cornette offered him and tore it into a hundred pieces on live television, and then promptly went through every adversary that a vindictive Cornette threw in his path.

Manager or not, Rocky Maivia's career is headed for greatness, barring some kind of injury. Just looking at the newcomer you realize that he has what it takes to someday follow in the footsteps of superstars like Shawn Michaels and Bret "Hit Man" Hart. Just this past December at the Free-For-All on *In Your House*, Maivia took his first stride toward singles stardom when he mixed it up with Salvatore Sincere. It was truly an impressive showing... and when the crowd roared to life with the chants of "ROCKY! ROCKY! ROCKY!" once more, you knew the kid was going to make it. WF





PERSONALITY PROFILE

Favorite Band:
He's not actually in a band, but I like the late Sam Cooke!

Biggest Thrill In Life:
Being the sole survivor for my team in Madison Square Garden at the 1996 *Survivor Series*!

Person You Would Most Like To Meet:
Martin Luther King Jr. because of his wisdom and leadership!

Favorite Sport (Besides Wrestling):
Football—I played for the Miami Hurricanes in college—and sport fishing!

Favorite Athlete:
Junior Seau

Favorite Television Show:
America's Most Wanted and *Unsolved Mysteries*

Hobbies:
Reading quotes, working out and light tackle saltwater fishing!

Favorite Food:
Any Polynesian food

Favorite Fast Food:
Pizza

Best Advice Ever Received:
Respect is given when it's earned, so go out and earn it!

Favorite Actor:
Without a doubt Tommy Lee Jones

Favorite Actress:
Dany Garcia

If I Could Have Done It Differently, I Would Have...
I would have done it all the same way. Everything happens for a reason—the key is to learn from your experiences!

Favorite Video Game:
John Madden Football (any year) and Tekken 2

Secret Talent:
I'm one heck of a cook!

Favorite Cartoon Character:
The Punisher

Favorite Movie:
It's A Wonderful Life




WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION
ROCKY!


Rocky
Maivia

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

The blue chip sensation named Rocky Maivia is the World Wrestling Federation's first ever third-generation superstar. He walks in the footsteps of his grandfather—the late "High Chief" Peter Maivia—and his father—former Federation Tag Team Champion Rocky Johnson. As a child, the former Miami Hurricanes standout would often watch his father from ringside at the very arena his family had so much success in—Madison Square Garden. Now, Rocky Maivia has climbed through those same ropes to defend his family's pride.





At the 1996 *Survivor Series*, Rocky made his World Wrestling Federation debut in front of a capacity crowd at Madison Square Garden. Not many people anticipated Rocky would last the entire match... after all, he was taking on Hunter Hearst-Helmsley, Jerry Lawler, Crush and Goldust! Toward the end of the match, however, Rocky found himself fending for his life against Goldust and Crush, but overcame the odds by eliminating both men and becoming the sole survivor!

Just one week after surviving at the November spectacular, Rocky was out to prove that his dramatic *Survivor Series* victory was no fluke, as he faced the sly Italian Salvatore Sincere on *Monday Night RAW*. This would mark the first one-on-one encounter for the Polynesian, who disappointed no one by bagging the win. During the match, fans inside the arena chanted "Rocky! Rocky!" in support of the new sensation of the World Wrestling Federation.



YEAH, THEY'RE COMING
AND I CAN'T WAIT



NO, WHAT WERE JUST WHY?

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

WARNING WARNING WARNING WARNING WARNING

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By Lou Gianfriddo

Fizzle or SIZZLE?

DESTINY AWAITS FURNAS & LAFON

At last November's *Survivor Series*, newcomers Doug Furnas and Philip LaFon entered the World Wrestling Federation with a bang. In an eight-man elimination tag team match, Furnas and LaFon joined forces with former Tag Team Champions the Godwinns, Henry and Phineas. They clashed against an experienced foursome composed of reigning Federation Champions British Bulldog and Owen Hart and their partners, the New Rockers —Marty Jannetty and Leif Cassidy.

Prior to the contest, many Federation observers felt that the match would be "a learning experience" for the two young superstars. However, the tag team made all their critics eat dirt, not to mention other things we can't for many reasons—legal ones notwithstanding—publish.

The match began with Jannetty, the cagey and nimble-footed veteran, battling LaFon. LaFon, a multi-time All Asian Tag Team Co-titlist, remarkably held his own against Jannetty—himself a



former Intercontinental Champion. Both athletes traded maneuvers on the mat and in the air.

During their exchanges, Owen and the Bulldog studied their quarry. They were looking at his strengths; undoubtedly, they were keying on his weaknesses. They were looking at everything the young Frenchman did between the ropes, before Jannetty tagged Cassidy into the fray.

Cassidy picked up where Jannetty left off, meeting every LaFon maneuver with a precise counter-maneuver. His feats of aerialism and tactical precision even delighted the masses who converged at New York's Madison Square Garden—most of whom, we're told, think of Cassidy as a geek first and a wrestler a distant second.

When things became too hot for LaFon, however, he tagged Phineas into action. Perhaps in an effort to remind LaFon and Furnas how promising their future appears in the Federation, Owen and the Bulldog double-teamed the 300-pounder from Arkansas. Their message was simple to the new tag team: "Here's what happens to any team that challenges us."

Soon, all the rulebreakers had a piece of Phineas. They cut off the ring and battered him at will. Things changed, however, when Jannetty was tagged into the contest. Although he continued with the battering, it was to be short-lived the moment Phineas tagged Henry.

In the same manner as the Tag Team Champions watched them minutes before, Furnas and LaFon watched as Henry Godwinn dismantled Marty Jannetty piece by piece. Godwinn was a house of fire. He tore into his foe in a manner seldom witnessed from this burly hog farmer from the Ozark Mountains. During the scuffle, Jannetty somehow injured his left knee; an opportune Henry Godwinn took advantage of the unfortunate circumstance and pinned the Rocker, eliminating him from the contest. All the while, Furnas and LaFon watched and learned. Seconds later, they learned that victory comes at a hefty price. The moment Jannetty was eradicated from the competition, Owen Hart rushed into the ring and took to the air. He leveled the huge mountain man with a spinning Savant kick. That was it. Before anybody—the wrestlers or the fans—knew what had happened, Henry Godwinn was a beaten man, trailing not far behind the limping Jannetty.

Phineas, like Owen Hart seconds earlier, raced into combat. He hammered the 1995 *King of the Ring*, and then blasted him

Although bruised, although battered, the youngsters pooled their resources and pulled either a rabbit from their hats, or a bit of wrestling psychology few will ever learn, let alone understand.

The "green boys", as they were contemptuously called by their counterparts prior to the *Survivor Series*, worked like a well-oiled machine at the dawn of the match. LaFon was able to surprise the Bulldog—not to mention the rest of the world—with a crucifix/rollup combination. This move, many Federations fans will recall, was the same one the Bulldog used to beat Bret Hart for the Intercontinental Title at *SummerSlam* '92 in London. Seconds later, Furnas—who possesses what many say is the best dropkick in all of wrestling—cinched the match with a German suplex, a move Hart has used time and again to defeat opponents throughout the years.

That said it all. Furnas and LaFon had done their homework, and were able to put it all together at the *Survivor Series*. In doing so, they also assembled one startling resume that promoters will unquestionably study when they select likely candidates for the Tag Team Titles in the not too distant future. WF



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MANKIND



MANKIND GETS "STUN, CELL" LAW!



THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR!



UNCLE PAUL?!



70

At the 1996 *SummerSlam* spectacular, Mankind and Paul Bearer joined "demented" forces in their effort to rid the World Wrestling Federation of the Undertaker! Just as the phenom was about to defeat Mankind in the first-ever Boiler Room Brawl match, the rotund manager turned his back on his longtime protégé, smashing his cranium with the golden urn! That night would mark the beginning of the new "cult" era in the Federation of Mankind and Paul Bearer!

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®

UNCLE PAUL?!

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In a match that would result in the end of the "old" Undertaker, Mankind entombed the Federation phenom six feet under at their 1996 October *In Your House* "Buried Alive" match. That night, at Market Square Arena, the Undertaker ended up under a ton of dirt... courtesy of Mankind and his new-found friend, the Executioner, who smashed a shovel over the Grim Reaper's head. Along with Uncle Paul, Mankind and the Executioner, various other "vultures" joined in on the burial ceremony!

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®

THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR!

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72

In a match millions of fans across the globe labeled as "the greatest *RAW* contest ever," Mankind (as a last minute replacement for the injured Vader) battled Stone Cold Steve Austin in a "Tough Man" contest! Inside the ring that night, both men defined new limits of violence—going to the full extreme to put each other out of action. Just as Austin looked to put away the deranged lunatic, however, the Executioner ran to Mankind's aid, saving the deranged one from a possible Stone Cold Stunner! Soon, the Undertaker followed... and for lack of a better phrase, ALL HELL BROKE LOOSE!

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®

MANKIND GETS "STONE COLD" RAW!

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MANKIND



1997

MANKIND – "Mommy?!"

Height:

6' 2"

Weight:

287 pounds

From:

Any boiler room across the World!

Titles Held:

None

Motto:

"Have a nice day!"

Finishing Move:

The Mandible Claw

Nickname:

The Deranged One

PPV Debut:

1996 *King of the Ring*

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LIVE
from NEW YORK CITY it's SHOTGUN SATURDAY NIGHT!
SHOTGUN
LIVE
NEW YORK CITY
SATURDAY NIGHT
1997
LATE NIGHT
It's a smokin' sexy, rockin' good time!
Every Saturday Night

IN YOUR HOUSE™ RESULTS

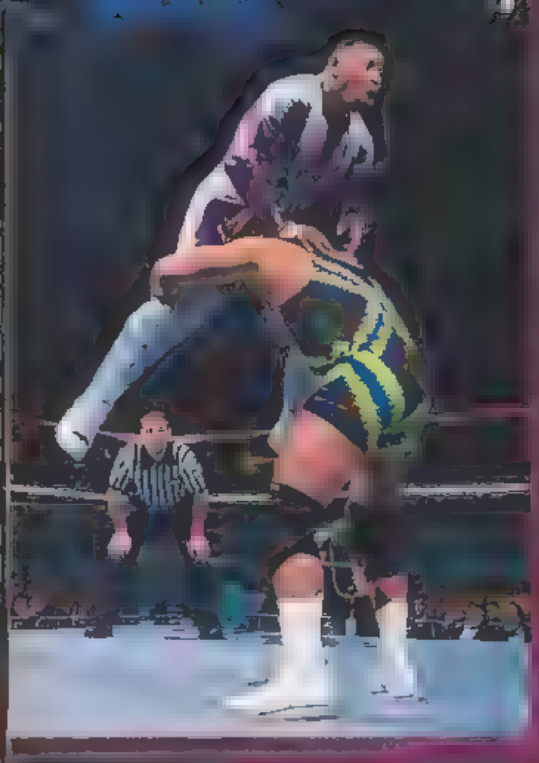
BY KEITH ELLIOT GREENBERG



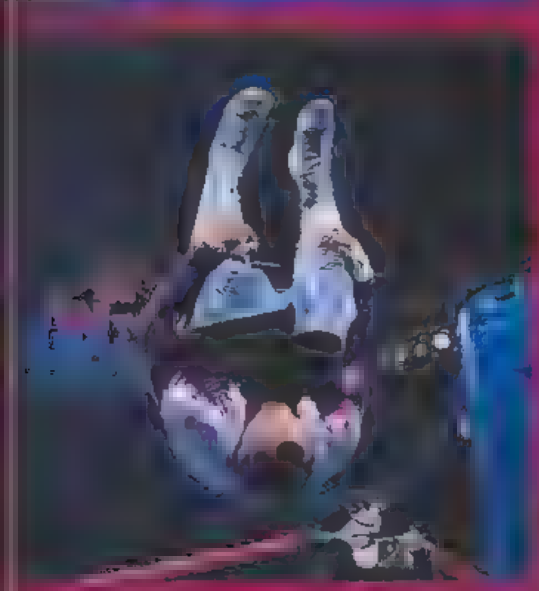
FREE FOR ALL

Prior to the Pay-Per-View telecast, fans were treated to a free altercation, pitting Salvatore Sincere, accompanied by manager Jim Cornette, against rookie Rocky Maivia. The manager—still smarting from Maivia's refusal to become part of Camp Cornette—became quite agitated as the dynamic newcomer coasted toward victory, harming Sincere with a powerslam, flying body press and a shoulder breaker. Hoping to break up the party, Cornette trespassed into the ring, earning Sincere a disqualification.









FLASH FUNK VS. LEIF CASSIDY

championship caliber athlete—

help out his opponent in this

on his face instead and propelled over the ropes with a belly-to-belly suplex. As Flash stumbled at ringside, Cassidy somersaulted

clothesline in the aisle.

ing to ringside with a martial

moonsault, Funk accom-

somersault from the top turnbuckle.

LEIF CASSIDY:
"If anything, Flash Funk and these miserable people out there tonight realized that they are going to have to respect Leif Cassidy—LIKE IT OR NOT!!!"

FLASH FUNK:
"I came, I saw I GOT FUNKY!"

WWF IN YOUR HOUSE RESULTS







THE BRITISH BULLDOG & OWEN HART

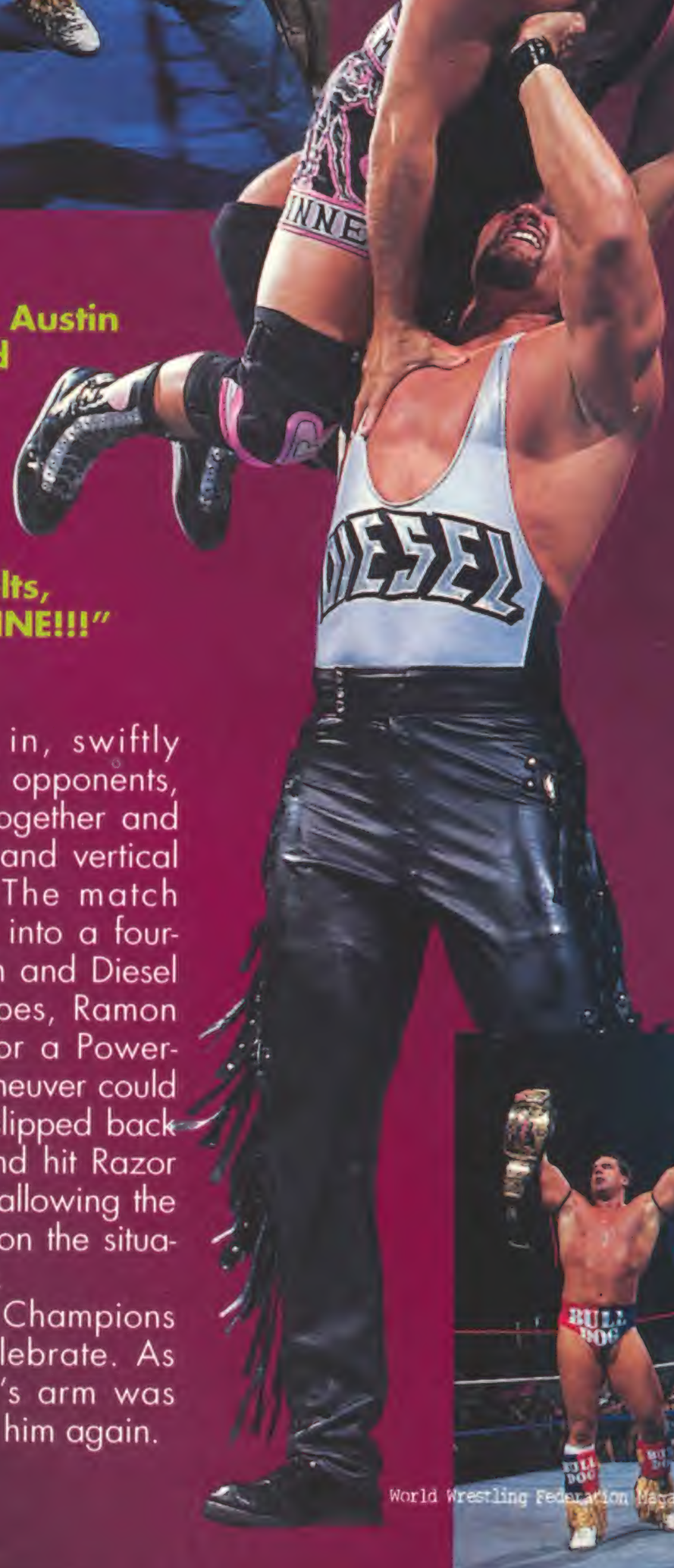
(WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS)

VS.

RAZOR RAMON & DIESEL

OWEN HART:
"Stone Cold Steve Austin has become a bad cancer!"

BRITISH BULLDOG:
"Tag team belts or no tag team belts, STONE COLD IS MINE!!!"



Despite the compelling nature of the matchup, the competitors were distracted early in the contest by the presence of Cibernetico and Pierroth, two masked grapplers from Mexico's AAA promotion, at ringside pledging to wipe out the field at January's *Royal Rumble*. Once they departed, Stone Cold Steve Austin arrived, prompting the Bulldog to stampede out of the ring and pound on the intruder.

Owen tried carrying the flag for his team. But shortly after he delivered a top rope dropkick to Ramon, Hart was tripped by Diesel while running the ropes, then smashed into the steel post and sidewalk-slammed by Big Daddy Cool.

Bulldog tagged in, swiftly clotheslined both his opponents, crashed their skulls together and delivered a legdrop and vertical suplex to Ramon. The match quickly degenerated into a four-way brawl. As Owen and Diesel tumbled over the ropes, Ramon set up the Bulldog for a Powerbomb. Before the maneuver could be executed, Owen slipped back between the ropes and hit Razor with a spinning kick, allowing the Bulldog to capitalize on the situation and score the pin.

But the Tag Team Champions had little time to celebrate. As soon as the Bulldog's arm was raised, Austin jumped him again.



HUNTER HEARST-HELMSLEY

(WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPION)

VS.

WILDMAN MARC MERO

Reportedly, Helmsley, [illegible] ing the support of Goldust [illegible] direction. Moments before the match, The nature of the offer apparently offended Hunterboy and his advisor.

Once the battle started, Hunter took charge of the contest, [illegible] hiding behind Mero's [illegible] table, outside the ring, and [illegible] pounding on the Wildman, [illegible] ing him against the ring steps.

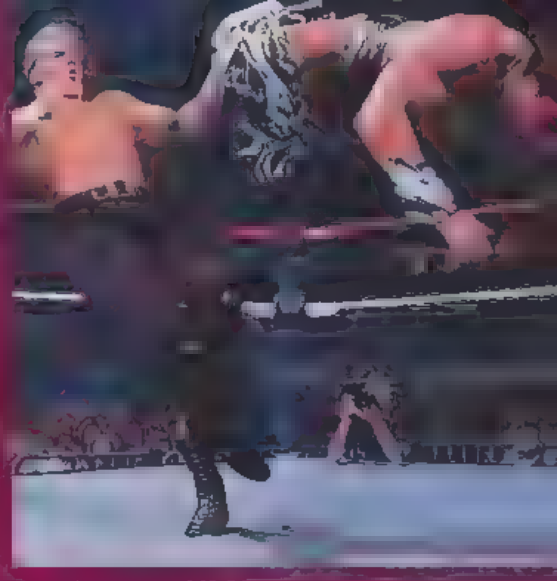
Mero continued fighting [illegible] one point, Helmsley turned his [illegible] around his opponent's head, flipped him to [illegible] a headscissors. When the Wildman scrambled to [illegible] Mero to slip.

[illegible] the mat for a pinning combination, [illegible] somersault pancho from the ring, [illegible] him to aid Helmsley, and he [illegible] mental belt, but Goldust then turned his ire on Hunter, using the strap to batter him as well.

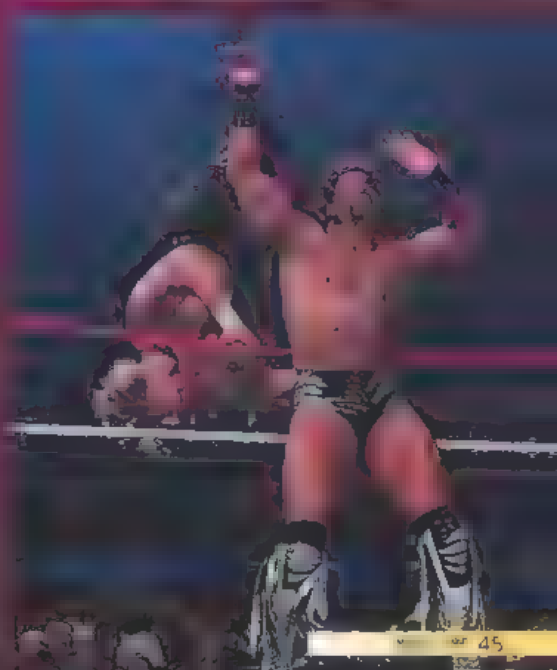
[illegible] However, since a title can only change hands [illegible] belt.

HUNTER HEARST-HELMSLEY: "Goldust has picked the wrong time to decide to become a 'man'."

WILDMAN MARC MERO: "He can take all the walks he wants, but sooner or later I'm gonna cripple him!"







WWF In Your House RESULTS





ARMAGEDDON MATCH:
THE UNDERTAKER VS. THE EXECUTIONER

The rules specified that the match would rage until one man was incapable of continuing. To no one's surprise, the action quickly spilled outside the ring. The Executioner surged there at first, ramming his foe's head into the announcer's table. But then the Undertaker took charge. He pulled back the mats at ringside and was about to slam the Executioner on the hard concrete floor, when Mankind intervened, helping his ally double-team the Undertaker in and out of the ring.

Undertaker recovered, tossing Mankind through the window of the massive *In Your House* set, then returning to the squared circle to wage war against both his enemies. Security poured into the ring to restore some semblance of order, but Undertaker could not be thwarted. He chased the Executioner through the lobby of the building and outside the arena, hurling the masked man down a steep incline into a fountain.

Meanwhile—on Federation president Gorilla Monsoon's orders—the guards tied up Mankind in a straitjacket. Before he could make it back to the locker room, Undertaker intercepted him in the aisle, pummeling him. The Executioner soon also returned to the building, only to be subjected to the Tombstone piledriver in center ring. The referee stood over the hooded warrior and counted. When the Executioner failed to rise by the count of ten, the Undertaker was awarded the match.






THE UNDERTAKER:
bear... and that's you Paul Bearer."
"Ohh, noo!!!"

WWF IN YOUR HOUSE RESULTS



SYCHO SID
(WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION CHAMPION)
VS.
BRET "HIT MAN" HART

The color commentator at ringside—former World Wrestling Federation Titlist Shawn Michaels—inspired almost as much curiosity as the two combatants. Michaels was scheduled to meet the winner of this contest at the *Royal Rumble* and, before the *In Your House* card, engaged in unscheduled altercations with both men.

As Shawn looked on, Bret jumped Sid from the rear at the bell, slamming his head into the top turnbuckle. Sid countered with a decapitating clothesline, followed by a bodyslam and running kick to the head. Sid tried whipping Bret into the ropes, but received a boot to the neck when he bent to deliver a high back bodydrop. Straddling a prone Sid, the Hit Man spread the champion's legs and headbutted his lower abdomen.

Dumping Hart over the top rope, Sid went to work on the challenger at ringside, pulling away the protective mats to expose the hard floor and attempting a Powerbomb. Bret refused to give in to the maneuver, backing Sid into the ringpost, then lifting him and jamming his spine into the steel.

To turn up the torture level, Hart then took the match into the ring—and removed the top turnbuckle. He tried slamming Sid's head into the exposed metal, but the champion put on the brakes. After delivering a side Russian legsweep, suplex and kneedrop from the second rope, Hart attempted a dive from the top buckle. But Sid grabbed him from underneath, pitched him across the canvas, bounced him off the ropes and met him with a big boot to the face, followed by a powerslam.

Bret wouldn't quit. He got Sid on the mat, and tried a Sharpshooter. But the champion simply kicked the Hit Man to ringside. There, Stone Cold Steve Austin swept out of the locker room and clipped the challenger's leg from the rear. The British Bulldog and World Wrestling Federation officials pulled Austin away, as a confused Owen Hart rushed around, torn between his loyalty to his tag team partner and contempt for his brother.

But Sid took advantage of the incursion, stomping on the Hit Man in the ring and hoisting him up for a powerslam. As Bret struggled to break free, Sid let him drop—right on top of the exposed turnbuckle! The champion chokeslammed the contender and gained a near-fall, then missed a running clothesline and received one from Bret. The momentum of the blow propelled both men out of the ring to the area just in front of the announcer's table—and Shawn Michaels.

Masterfully using Michaels as a tool, Sid stuck his hand in the Heartbreak Kid's face and shoved him backwards, then continued targeting the Hit Man in the ring. Michaels hopped up on the ring apron to go after the champion—and Sid whipped Hart into the visitor. Shawn fell to ringside and Bret wobbled toward Sid, who instantly Powerbombed and pinned the heralded challenger.

A defeated Hit Man rolled out of the ring, bleeding from the nose. He eyed Shawn for a moment, then clocked him with a right, pulling Michaels' shirt over his head and victimizing him for the loss.



Hector Garza

DE LOS MEXICANOS INVASION!

How the stars of AAA are making a splash in the World Wrestling Federation!

By Bill Banks

This past November, just a few days after the *Survivor Series*, the World Wrestling Federation held its annual *Royal Rumble* press conference in the Lone Star city of San Antonio, Texas. There, Vince McMahon and a host of Federation officials stood before a storm of flashbulbs and television cameras to announce to the world that an agreement had been reached with famed Mexican promoter Antonio Pena that would allow some of the top superstars of the Mexico promotion, AAA, to compete in the *Royal Rumble*.

Although somewhat unknown to the majority of American wrestling fans, AAA has been the wrestling world's best kept secret. You may be aware that Mexico fosters some of the top aerial artists in the world, but what you may not have heard is that AAA has a diverse crop of athletes who can play the same brutal mat game as men like Mankind and Sycho Sid. From the masks to the moonsaults, Antonio Pena truly has a stable of warriors who are excited to elevate the WORLD in World Wrestling Federation to a new level for the 21st Century and beyond!

Having only been in existence for a little over five years, AAA has a rich tradition that dates back to the late 1920s when Mexican wrestlers first started to wear colorful masks to conceal their true identities. To these superstars, a significant accomplishment in their wrestling career is to defeat someone in a mask versus mask match. To strip another wrestler of his headgear, thus exposing him to the fans, is the way not only to defeat him, but also to gain respect. However, if a wrestler rips an opponent's mask off during the course of a regular match—a move that breaks the rules of tradition—he gets an automatic disqualification and is disgraced in the eyes of his peers.

Contrary to rumors that have spread in wrestling circles over the years, these masks aren't always used as weapons of war. If a Mexican wrestler willingly gives his headgear to another man, it is seen as a token of friendship... a sign that you hold him in the highest regard. Two men who have that very respect for each other are Pierroth and Cibernetico—considered by many to be the best to have ever competed in Mexico.

Pierroth and Cibernetico are devious rule-breakers, or "rudo" to the fans, meaning that they bend the rules with the best! Pierroth is the current "Champion of Champions", a title he has held since May 1996 when he won a tournament composed of all the AAA title holders. He is known as one of the most out-



...spoke...nowadays...Mexico's...man who backs up his mouth in the ring, much like Steve Cold Steve Austin.

...former him as a rule-breaking ...dol's...his partner Cibernetico ...21 years of age, Cibernetico ...two of the hottest young stars in Mexican history! When Herrera is not defending his title, he teams with the younger Cibernetico in what many consider perhaps the best "teacher/student" combination in the world. With the experience of the champion and the pure aggressiveness of the young challenger, it only a matter of time before these two are knocking on the Tag Team Title door in the World Wrestling Federation.

Along with this super combo, ...a host of other Mexican high-flyers from south of the border. Names like El Canek, Fuerza Guerrera, Heavy Metal, ...Estrada and Perro Aguayo ...may also be making their way to the "big time" of the Federation. Some of the masked stars in AAA, such as Canek and Aguayo, have been claiming gold for over 20 years. Unlike some athletes today who rely on the same "mighty" bag drop night after night to bag a win, these veterans are constantly re-inventing their own arsenal. On the other hand, stars like Estrada and Guerrera are known for their incredible acrobatics—trained in the daredevil tactics they learned while touring Japan.

Also set to climb the ladder of the Federation via AAA are some of the sport's talented young lions—names like the Lotus Lover, Heavy Metal and the highly-touted Hector Garza—just to name a few. Some Mexican fans compare the Latin-lover to our own Shawn Michaels, being that he is known as a talented athlete whose charming style ...

...Also...pick Garza, a former Tag Team Title holder whose trademark mannerisms is a picture of perfection, as the Mexican champion of the future.

With over 200 AAA stars possibly available to compete in future World Wrestling Federation events, could it be long before we see these stars from south of the border with Federation gold around their waists? Without a doubt, men like Hunter Hearst-Helmsley, Owen Hart and the British Bulldog are studying the techniques of the Mexicans, just in case they meet them in mean one encounters down the road. Call this possible influx of international talent an "invasion" if you will, but this relationship between the World Wrestling Federation and AAA may indeed go down as one of the most successful joint efforts in the history of sports entertainment!

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION'S

Video Game REVIEW

GAME TITLE:
World Wrestling Federation In Your House™

MACHINE:
PSX (Sony PlayStation) 32-bit

NUMBER OF WRESTLERS:
10 WF Superstars

MANUFACTURER:
Acclaim Entertainment, Inc.

PLAYERS:
1 to 4

THEME:
Fighting Game/Sports

EST. PRICE:
$59.95



T-BOY'S SCORE

GAME PLAY	7
GRAPHICS	6
MUSIC/SOUND	5

OVERALL SCORE ▶▶▶ 6



SIDESCROLL'S SCORE

GAME PLAY	5
GRAPHICS	7
MUSIC/SOUND	9

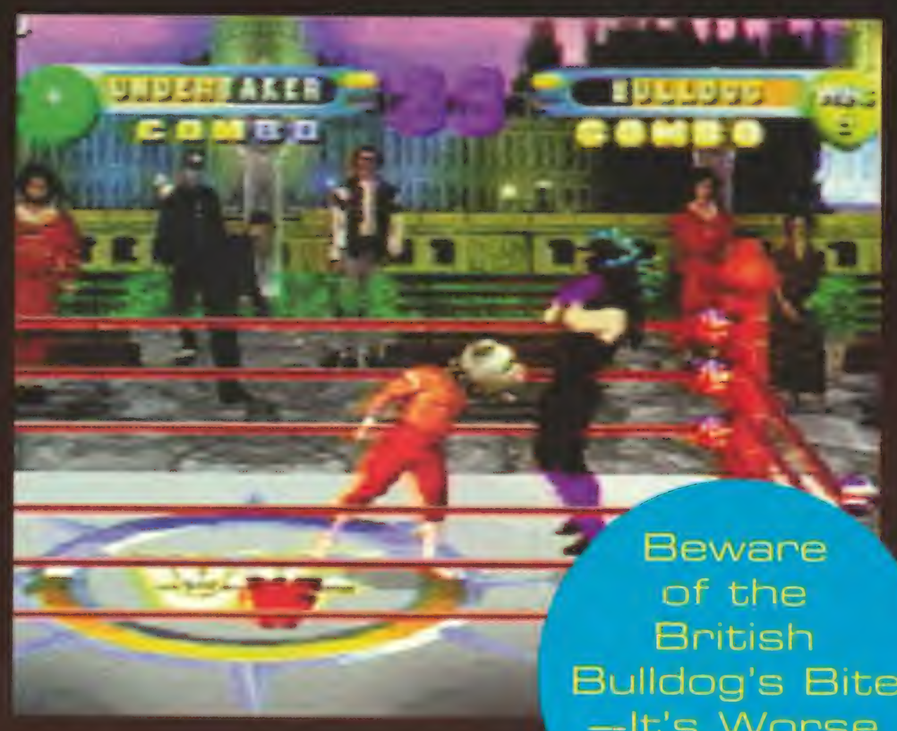
OVERALL SCORE ▶▶▶ 7

Sidescroll & T-Boy Illustrations by Howard M. Cooper

SYSTEM TYPE

SONY PLAYSTATION

BY T-BOY & SIDESCROLL



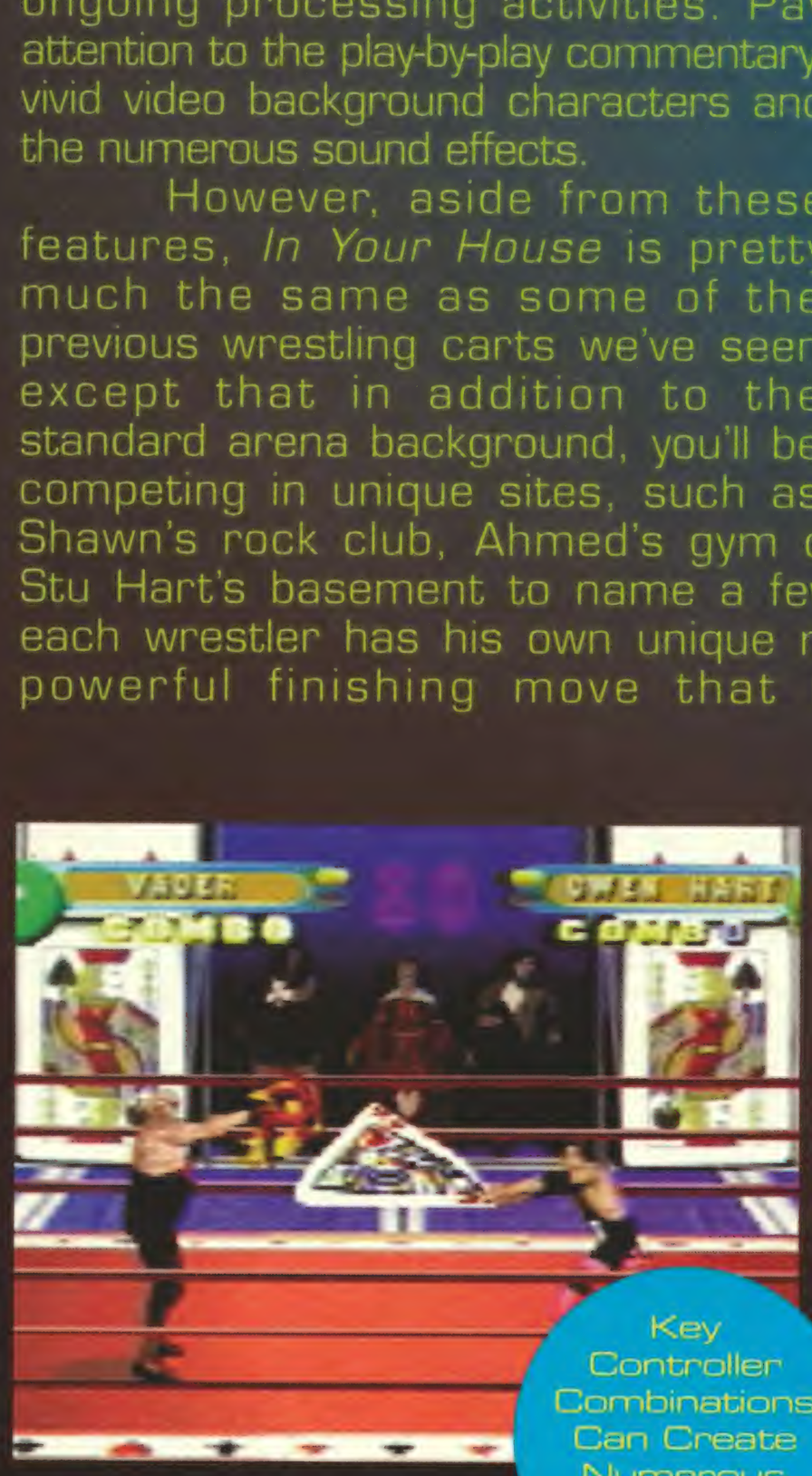
Beware of the British Bulldog's Bite —It's Worse Than His Bark!



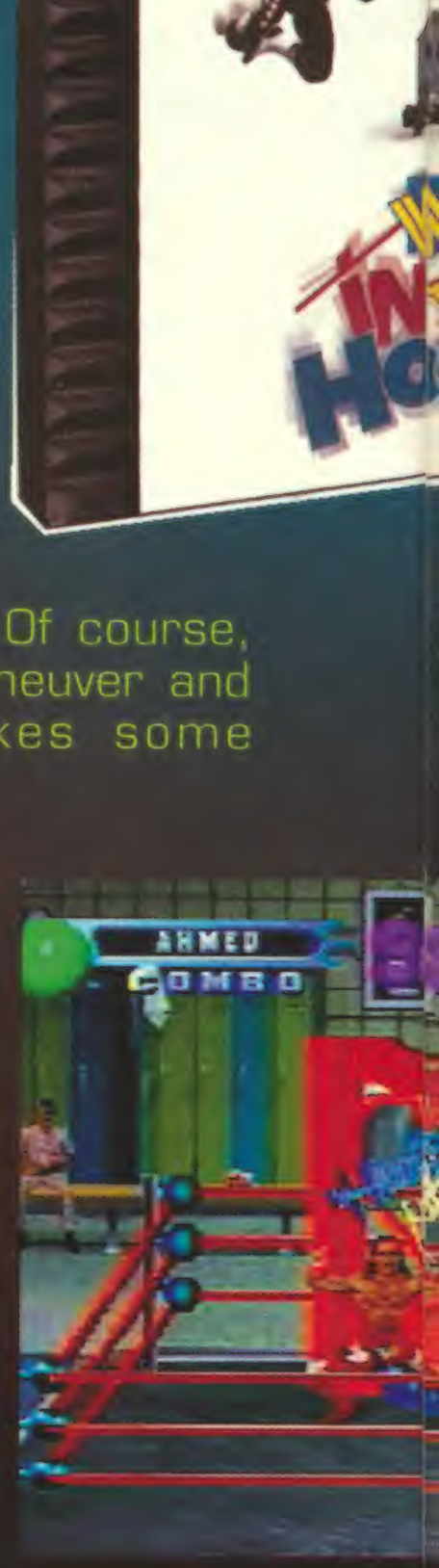
This month we review Acclaim Entertainment's latest wrestling video game release World Wrestling Federation's *In Your House*. Feature highlights of this release include 10 of the hottest Federation superstars, 11 different venue backgrounds, a multitude of gadget and specialty moves and live action video of all the ongoing wrestling action. Game designers certainly pushed the limit by implementing numerous layers of ongoing processing activities. Pay attention to the play-by-play commentary, vivid video background characters and the numerous sound effects.

However, aside from these features, *In Your House* is pretty much the same as some of the previous wrestling carts we've seen except that in addition to the standard arena background, you'll be competing in unique sites, such as Shawn's rock club, Ahmed's gym or Stu Hart's basement to name a few. Of course, each wrestler has his own unique maneuver and powerful finishing move that takes some





Key Controller Combinations Can Create Numerous Gadget Moves.









MORE TIPS

HIDDEN MOVE CODES

Bret "Hit Man" Hart™
1. Reversal: Down-Down-SK
2. Title Belt Hit: Down-Toward-P
3. Superpin: Down-Up-SP-Down-Up-SP

Shawn Michaels™
1. Reversal: Away-Away-SP
2. Combo: Toward-Toward-K
3. Superpin: Down-Up-P-SK-SK-P

Undertaker®
1. Spirit Push: Down-Away-K
2. Bat Attack: Down-Away-SK
3. Superpin: Down-Up-SK-SK-SP-SP

THE CRITICS' CORNER

Sidescroll: T-Boy where have you been? I guess that as readers felt your game skills were plain lousy, you've been off practicing?

T-Boy: Unlike you, I've been mastering my gaming skills on the new 32-bit systems Too bad you can't find a worthy 8-bit opponent to play against these days

Sidescroll: All right then, I'm gonna step it up a bit—to ring your neck! I couldn't let this game go by without a proper game review

T-Boy: You're right, we couldn't let this game go by without me giving you a proper beating in your own house!

Sidescroll We'll just see. I hope your 2-bit head can handle the hidden superpins I am going to enforce upon you.

THE WORDS OF OWEN HART

SLAMMY THIS!!!

First of all, I want to start off this month by saying that I'm not at all impressed by this so-called "International Invasion" that's going on here in the World Wrestling Federation. And you know darn well who I'm talking about... I'm talking about those lousy Mexicans! How can you respect anybody with faces so HIDEOUS that they have to be covered up by masks?! True, everybody can't have a face that's as attractive as mine, but you should see what these guys look like when they wake up in the morning! That is, except for Mascaras, of course. He's so ugly that he even SLEEPS in his mask!



As far as their elementary acrobatic maneuvers go... yeah, they're all right, but everybody knows that I'm the true KING of the high-flyers! I've been "South of the Border" on numerous occasions, and I've beaten the very best that AAA had to offer. From El Canek to Mil Mascaras, it didn't matter, I beat them like dried-up taco meat—IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY! They don't stand a chance in Canada and the United States! And speaking of foreigners, Doug Furnas (who resides in Tennessee, by the way) and Philip LaFon (who I can't even BELIEVE is Canadian) should seriously consider going back to their own countries because in the World Wrestling Federation, there's only room for one premier tag team and that honor, of course, goes to the Slammy Award-Winning Owen Hart and British Bulldog!

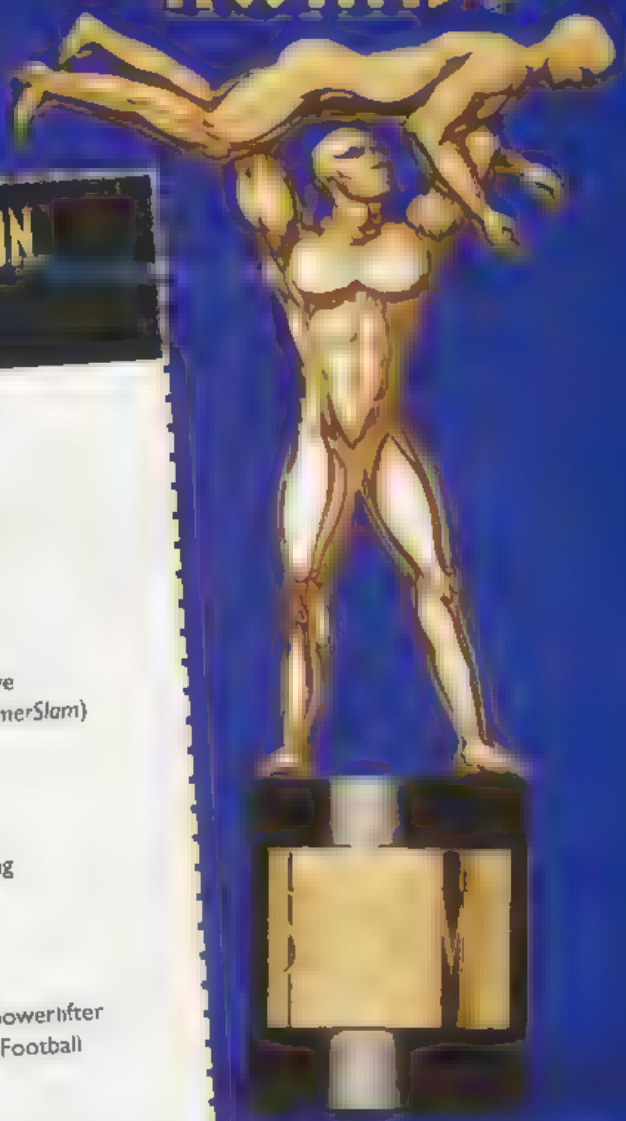
Is it just me or is it a travesty that my lousy brother Bret is trying to pass himself off as a role model? I mean, who is this guy kidding? Remember I grew up with him and believe me there was nothing to emulate! He didn't even shower until he hit puberty! Now I, on the other hand, am a TRUE role model! I have a very neat, well-cropped 'do. I'm clean-cut and I go into the ring like a true-gentleman. That's what the kids want today. They respect me because I speak the truth, tell it like it is and go out there and do what I say I'm going to do. I don't have to have greasy, slicked-back hair or some scraggly beard to look rugged... I AM RUGGED!!! That's why kids want to be like me!

SLAMMY THIS! LATER!

Your Vote Counts!

Cast your ballot NOW and help determine the winners of the 1997 World Wrestling Federation Slammy Awards!! Review each of the five categories below, evaluate the nominees, then VOTE for your favorites!

WF SLAMMY 1997 AWARDS



1997 WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION SLAMMY AWARD BALLOT

(Nominees represent the 1996 season)

Vote for only one nominee in each category

1996 WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION NEW SENSATION OF THE SQUARED CIRCLE

❑ Stone Cold Steve Austin ❑ Wildman Marc Mero ❑ Flash Funk
❑ Mankind ❑ Rocky Maivia

1996 MATCH OF THE YEAR

❑ Shawn Michaels / Mankind (*In Your House*) ❑ Bret Hart / Stone Cold Steve Austin (*Survivor Series*) ❑ Undertaker / Mankind (Boiler Room Brawl, *SummerSlam*)
❑ Savio Vega / Steve Austin (Caribbean Strap Match, *In Your House*)
❑ Shawn Michaels / Bret Hart (*WrestleMania XII*)

"1, 2, HE'S GOT HIM" (BEST FINISHING MANEUVER)

❑ Shawn Michaels' Sweet Chin Music ❑ Wildman Marc Mero's Wild Thing
❑ Sycho Sid's Powerbomb ❑ Steve Austin's Stone Cold Stunner
❑ Bret Hart's Sharpshooter

BEST CAREER CROSSOVER TO THE SQUARED CIRCLE

❑ Brakus from professional bodybuilder ❑ Mark Henry from Olympic powerlifter
❑ T.L. Hopper from plumber ❑ Rocky Maivia from University of Miami Football
❑ Clarence Mason from the courtroom

BEST HAIR DAY

❑ Steve Austin ❑ Bret Hart ❑ Hunter Hearst-Helmsley ❑ Mankind ❑ Shawn Michaels

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **ZIP** _____

Age / Gender _____ **Male** _____ **Female** _____

Mail this ballot to: "SLAMMYS", P.O. Box 1395, Stamford, CT 06904-1395 To be counted, this ballot must be received no later than Friday, March 7, 1997

Keep watching your favorite World Wrestling Federation television programs for more "Slammy Award" [illegible] Join the World Wrestling Federation Superstars and celebrities who will be attending the glamorous "Slammy Awards" banquet and ceremony in Chicago during the *WrestleMania XIII* Weekend!



Even though the HEARTBREAK KID SHAWN MICHAELS currently has his plate full with BRET "HIT MAN" HART, SYCHO SID and STONE COLD STEVE AUSTIN, there are many critics who believe that SHAWN's greatest challenge in 1997 might still be ahead of him!!! No, it's not the UNDERTAKER, HUNTER HEARST-HELMSLEY or even AHMED JOHNSON. Those close to the squared circle say that it could be none other than Triple A's HECTOR GARZA. At 27 years of age—a few years Shawn's junior—many believe that GARZA is the mirror image of the HEARTBREAK KID. Known as a high-flyer who "dares to be different", GARZA may just need a little more seasoning in the World Wrestling Federation before he gives SHAWN a run. "GARZA is the second coming of the HEARTBREAK KID," said one source. "In a few years this youngster could very well be at the top of the World Wrestling Federation!"... And, speaking of the top, that's exactly where the dangerous team of PIERROTH and CIBERNETICO plan on being REAL soon. The only problem is... so does the dynamic duo of DOUG FURNAS and PHILIP LAFON. Expect these two teams to go at it well into the spring to determine who the No. 1 contenders will be for the World Wrestling Federation Tag Team Title... I, the Informer, was recently informed by one of my informants that a top NBA superstar just may be dyeing to step into the squared circle... And speaking of DYING, the UNDERTAKER should seriously consider forming an alliance with somebody—ANYBODY—in order to help him prepare for the onslaught that will soon come from yet another member of PAUL BEARER's never-ending family! A suggestion from the INFORMER? How about STONE COLD STEVE AUSTIN? These two superstars might have a lot more in common than you think!!!... Are GOLDUST and MARLENA telling us the truth? Remember... they've fooled us before!!!... Rumor has it that SUNNY may be "bored" with television and may indeed be looking to move back into the managerial ranks of the World Wrestling Federation... The WILDMAN MARC MERO and the luscious SABLE may soon be going their separate ways. Look for SABLE to possibly fly the coop... not of her own free will, however!!!... The NATION OF DOMINATION will be enrolling a few new members before the final snow falls... A top informer recently informed me, the Informer, that JIM ROSS may be ousting RAZOR RAMON and DIESEL... that is, if they haven't already been ousted by the time you read this... BOB BACKLUND feels that he has what it takes to be a three-time World Wrestling Federation Champion. You know what? I believe him!... And speaking of MR. BACKLUND, how long will the SULTAN take orders from him and the IRON SHEIK? In my opinion... NOT VERY!... MANKIND made a new friend in Dubai... Until next time... this has been... the INFORMER...



BARRED FROM THE BACK

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

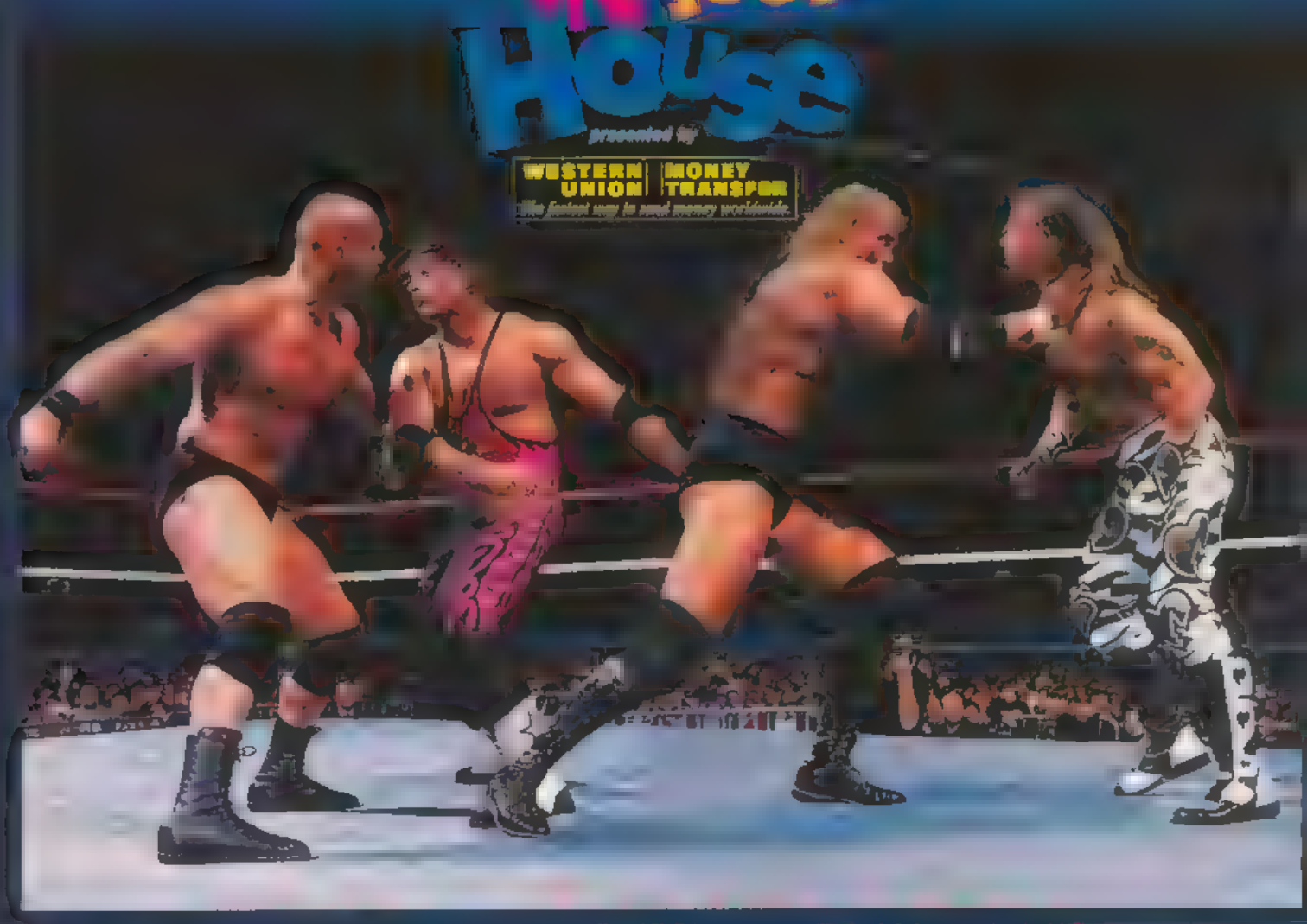
FINAL FOUR

WWF IN YOUR HOUSE

presented by

WESTERN UNION MONEY TRANSFER

the fastest way to send money worldwide.



LIVE on PAY-PER-VIEW

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16

7PM ET / 4PM PT • Replay 9PM ET / 6PM PT

CALL YOUR CABLE COMPANY TO ORDER

FREE 30 Minutes of ACTION! Watch FREE FOR ALL on the Preview Channel, 30 minutes prior to event.

PIN 'em DOWN



DEAR MANKIND,
Now that the Undertaker showed you the power of the Dark Side at the *Survivor Series*, I hope you have plans of running and hiding!

Jason Harvey
Coatsville, PA

HIDING?! I LOVE HIDING, JASON!! You see... Uncle Paul told me that he knows the Undertaker better than he knows himself. The Undertaker DOESN'T KNOW WHAT THE DARK SIDE IS!! DID HE SPEND 30 YEARS OF HIS LIFE LOCKED IN A BASEMENT? I don't think so... HavE a NiCE DAy!!

DEAR SALVATORE SINCERE,
Just why do you think you are so SINCERE? You sound like a complete liar to me!

Zach Fisler
North Hollywood, CA

Let me tella you s o m e a thinga, Mista Fisler! Salvatore Sincere loves alla da kidsa! You calla me a liar? I'm nota upset by that! I still love you, no matta what you say abouta me! Oha... anda justa wona mora thinga... I meana data SINCERELY!

DEAR OWEN HART,
Why do you call yourself "The Slammy Award-Winning" Owen Hart when you only won ONE AWARD while Shawn Michaels WON FIVE?

Gursharon Shergill
Brampton, Ontario, CAN

All Shawn's Slammys COMBINED couldn't equal the greatness of mine, BUSTER! Besides, that puke Shawn probably sits his Slammy Awards around his kitchen table because he has no other friends to talk to!



DEAR MARLENA,
Could you go a day without smoking that God-awful cigar of yours?

Aaron Smith
Jersey City, NJ

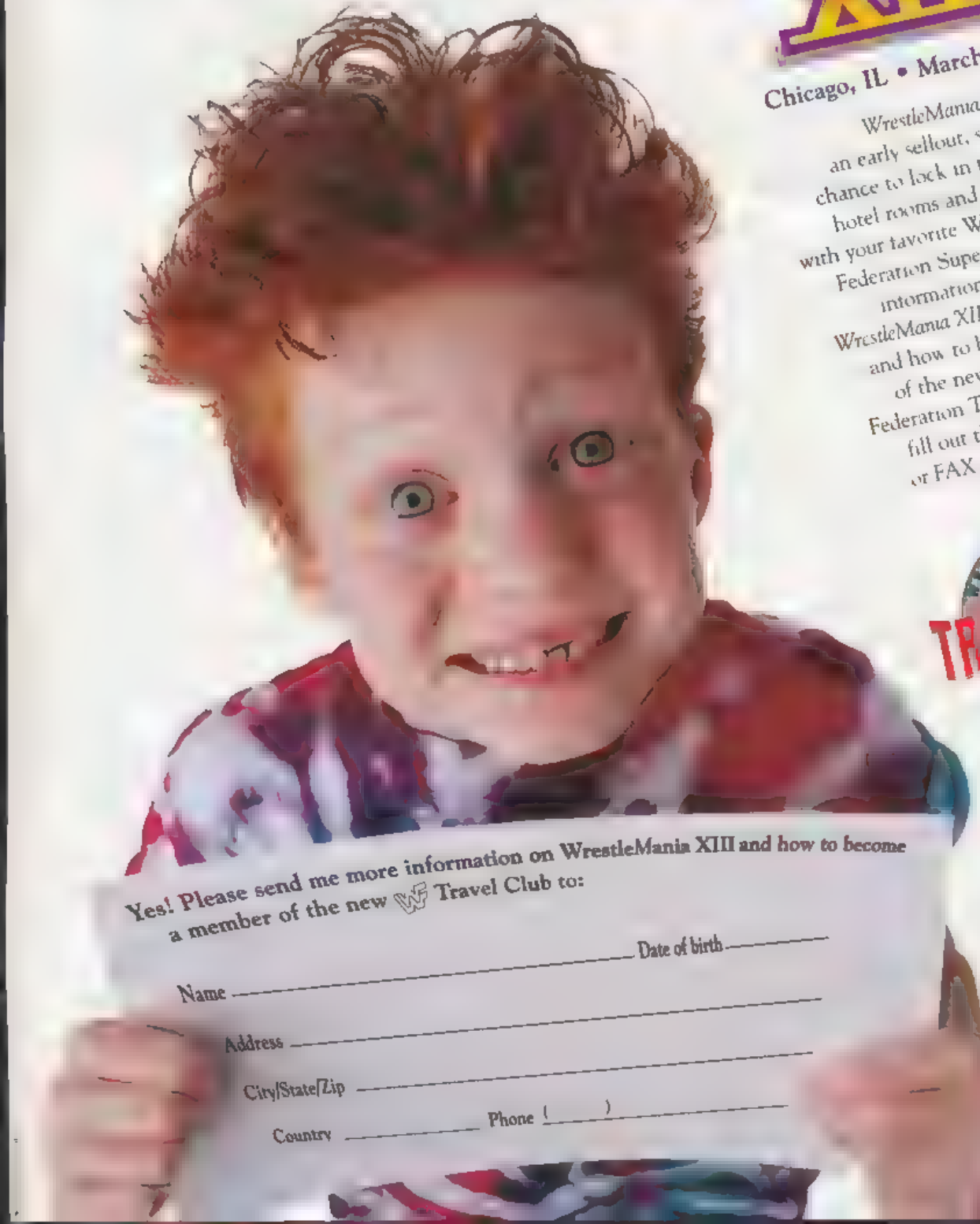
Aaron... I'm shocked you would stoop to that level of performance. Just for that, you'll never work in this town again! And in fact my cigars aren't awful... all the major Hollywood actors smoke them! It's the fad now! After all, they saw me do it first! Exit, stage left.

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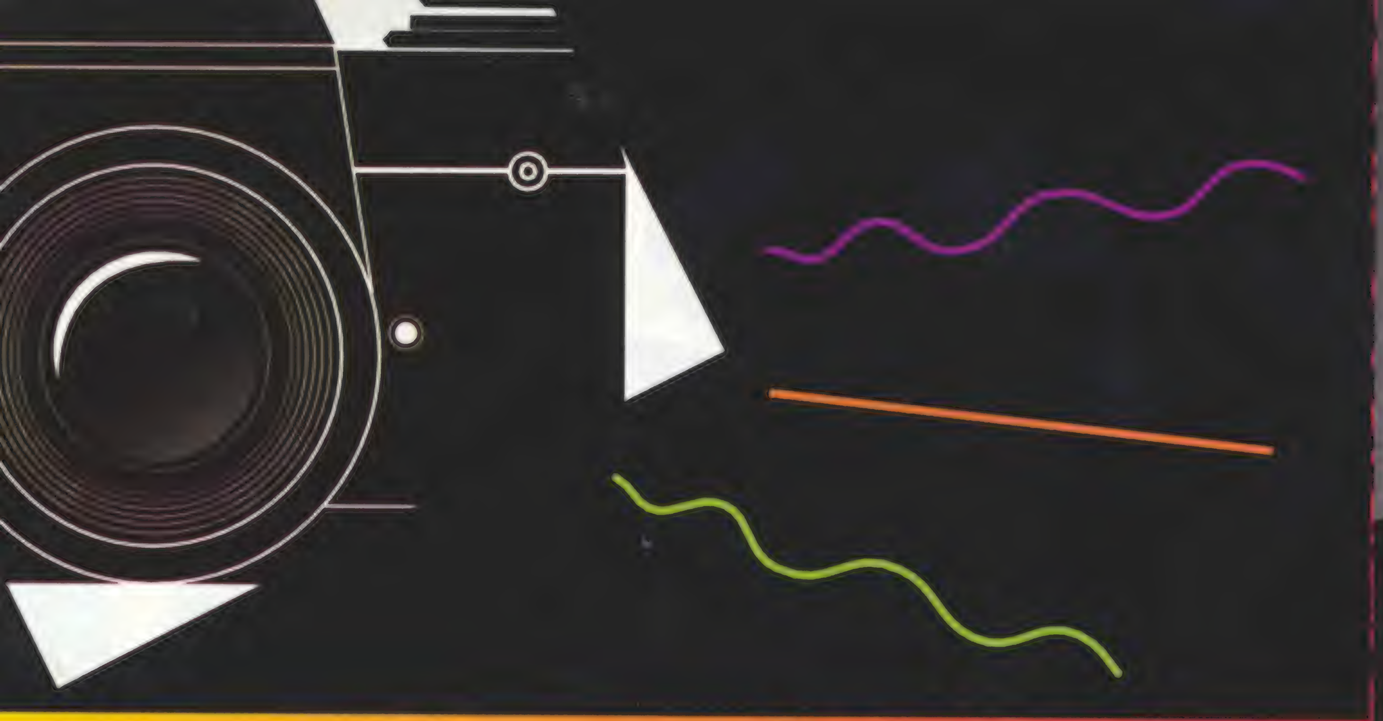
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PHOTOS BY TOM BUCHANAN AND JIM SULLEY

THE HALL INVADES NEW YORK CITY!



OF FAME

This past November 16, over 1000 fans jammed the halls of the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York City for the World Wrestling Federation Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction Ceremony. Among the superstars of the World Wide and the World Wrestling Federations who would be inducted that night were Killer Kowalski, the Valiant Brothers (Jimmy and Johnny), Johnny Rodz, Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka, Pat Patterson, Baron Mikel Scicluna, Captain Lou Albano and Vincent J. McMahon.

The first to be enshrined was arguably the greatest manager in the history of the World Wrestling Federation, Captain Lou Albano. This legend was perhaps the most influential force (along with rocker Cindy Lauper) in the Rock 'N' Wrestling era. He was dubbed "The Maker of Champions" throughout his long career for leading over 20 tag teams to Federation gold. New York radio icon Joe Franklin inducted Albano into the Hall of Fame. "For the McMahon family to give me a chance to do what I have done through the years is a blessing," the Captain said. "This family took the World Wide Wrestling Federation and snowballed it into a



worldwide company than it is today."

Killer Kowalski, former two-time Federation Tag Team Champion, was inducted into the Hall by Hunter Hearst-Helmsley—a man who graduated from the Killer's own wrestling school in suburban Boston, Massachusetts. Kowalski first teamed with Gorilla Monsoon and later with Big John Studd (as Executioner #1 and #2) for his title reigns. "I'm very grateful to all the fans who followed me throughout my career," Kowalski said. "I truly love them all... without them, this would never have been."

From the famed "Isle of Malta" hailed Baron Mikel Scicluna, former co-holder of the Federation Tag Team Title with King Curtis Iaukea. Throughout his career Scicluna was known as the "Master of the Foreign Object". Federation president Gorilla Monsoon presented the Baron. "I want to say thanks to the World Wrestling Federation and its fans," the Baron stated.



private eye







"For so many years, I got to travel to countries like Japan, Mexico and Australia and perform in front of so many people I loved—and I'm proud of it."

Jimmy and Johnny Valiant—natives of the Big Apple—held the Federation Tag Team Title for most of the 1970s. They were the kings of tag team flamboyance and for that they were dubbed "Handsome" and "Luscious" by their peers. Today, Jimmy runs the "Boogie Woogie Wrestling Camp" in Shawsville, Virginia. Tony Garea, a man who teamed with Dean Ho to battle the Valiants for the gold, had the privilege of leading the Valiants in the Hall of Fame. "To be inducted into the Hall of Fame on a night like this really brings a career full circle," Johnny said, just minutes after the ceremony. "I've had the pleasure of wrestling with the best, and now I'm just glad to be known as one."

"Unpredictable" Johnny Rodz was a true underdog in the World Wrestling Federation. The man didn't know the word "quit"... he was a true wrestling machine. Today, Rodz runs a wrestling school at Gleason's Gym in Brooklyn, New York. Fellow Hall of Famer Arnold Skaaland inducted the Unpredictable One in front of the packed crowd. "It feels great to be here," Rodz said. "I never would have thought back then that this would happen after my career in the Federation was over. It just goes to show people still remember us."

Pat Patterson became the first ever Intercontinental Champion back in 1979 when he won the title in a tournament held in Rio de Janeiro. This stick of dynamite is the only man to wrestle for the Federation Title at Madison Square



Garden four times in one year in 1979, Bret "Hit Man" Hart had the honor of inducting Patterson into the Hall of Fame. "To be inducted by a man I admire in the ring [Bret Hart] was one of the highlights of my career in the World Wrestling Federation," Patterson said. "Bret may not know it, but I asked that he induct me... that's how much I respect the man."

In the days of the World Wide Wrestling Federation, Vincent J. McMahon was THE premier promoter. Even today, the superstars of yesteryear speak highly of him as a true gentleman! McMahon, through hard work and dedication, was able to bring the Federation to the same level of recognition as that of professional basketball, football and baseball. McMahon's wife Juanita and grandson Shane had the honor of inducting the legacy of Vincent J. McMahon into the Hall of Fame forever. "My grandfather planted the foundation for what is now the World Wrestling Federation," Shane said. "It is with great pride that I promise to you that I will continue the great legacy that my grandfather has created."

Finally, the last Hall of Famer was about to take his place in history. Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka was a man who needs no introduction—but Don "The Rock" Muraco gave him one anyway. Fans around the globe are familiar with this superstar—a recognized name on every continent. Snuka entered the Federation in 1982 and had several famous wars with Muraco. "This gives me the opportunity to stand before all you fans and thank you for what you have done for me," the Superfly said. "All the professional wrestlers owe it to you for making us what we are today."

SCOOP SULLIVAN

ARTIST HOWARD M. COLBERT
WRITER VINCE RUSSO

SQUARED CIRCLE SUPERHERO

WHEN WE LAST LEFT SCOOP SULLIVAN, HE WAS JUST ABOUT TO GO MUZZLE TO MUZZLE WITH VADER!!



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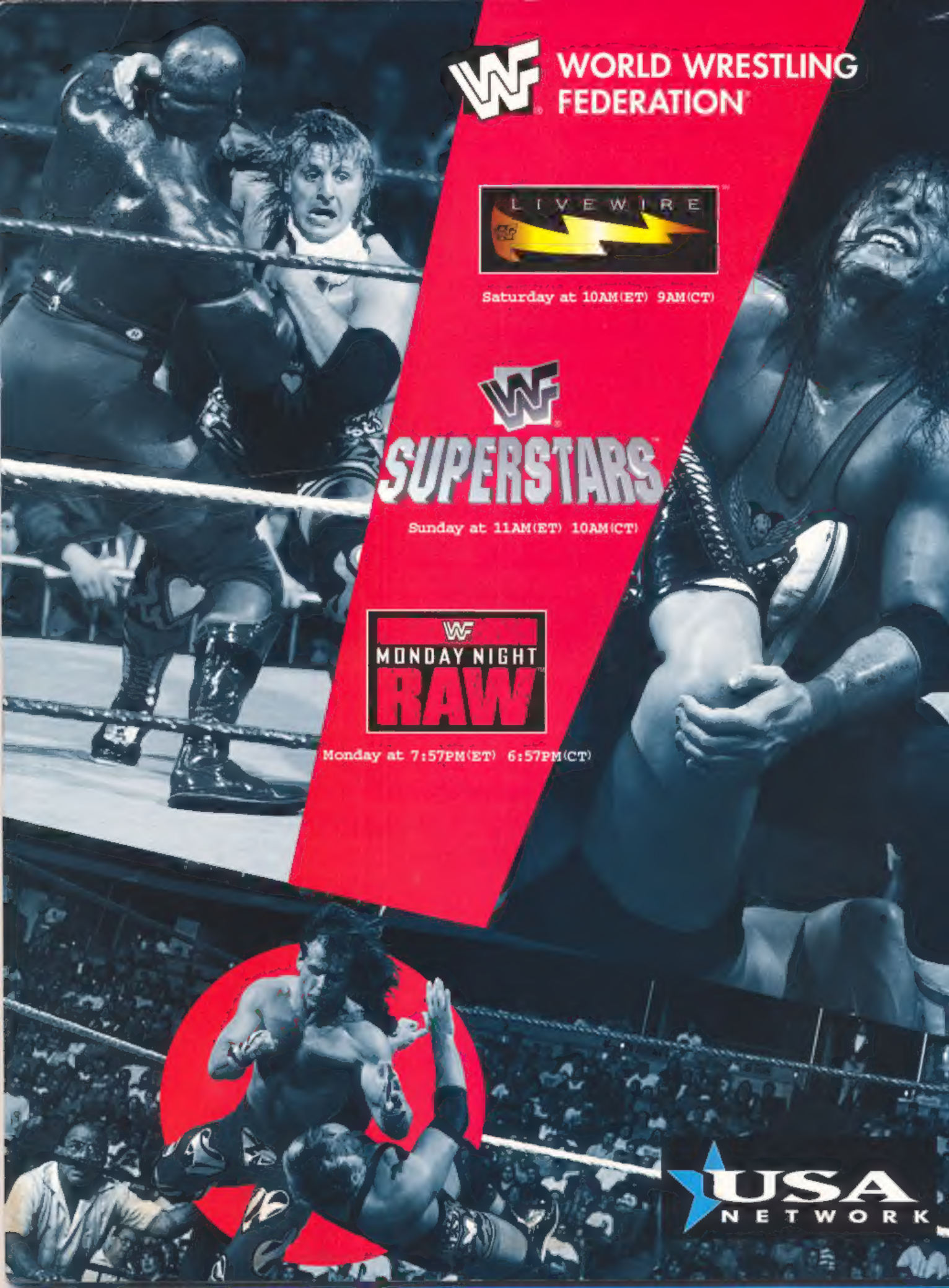
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